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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 22ND APRIL.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY is only sixty-four; and it is said he is about to take some rest. Like Darwin, Professor Huxley accomplished much of his first scientific work "on board a man-of-war." For three years (1847-50) he was assistant-surgeon on board H.M.S. Rattlesnake, which during most of the time cruised on the Australian Coast, and, like Darwin, he recorded his South Sea observations in a scientific book, which excited great attention in England at the time, and to which he largely owed his election, in 1851, to the Fellowship of the Royal Society. Professor Huxley is one of the extremely few scientific men who are literary stylists. He is also one of the most popular and successful lecturers of the day. But would the reader who has listened to Professor Huxley believe it? He has never conquered his original timidity and nervousness. He himself has often admitted that his invariable feeling, when he was about to address an audience, was as if he was about to sink into his boots. It was only after a long practice that he succeeded even in partially conquering this feeling.

THE Director of Land Records and Agriculture in Bombay has set an excellent example to similar Departments in other provinces by compiling an admirably complete statistical Atlas of the Presidency. The work is intended primarily for the use of famine relief officers, but it will also be found invaluable by all who desire to obtain accurate information in a compact form regarding the economic condition of the people and the difficulties with which they have to contend. The introduction gives a general account of the physical features of the Presidency, its extent and population, language and races, the areas liable to famine and the causes thereof, as well as of the administrative and protective measures undertaken by Government, and the staple crops on which the cultivators depend for their subsistence. This is followed by a separate account of each district, giving in more detail the divisions of the inhabitants in regard to race and occupation, with remarks on the areas specially liable to famine, their accessibility for relief purposes, and the number of persons likely in times of need to require employment on relief works.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—"The rates of discount in the Indian Banks have now become much easier, but the tightness was certainly a remarkable phenomenon while it lasted, and one not easily explained. In one of his recent reviews of India's foreign trade, Mr. O'Conor pointed out that within the last fifteen years the imports of silver into the country have undergone a considerable decrease, though "with a largely increased population and vastly increased progress in railways and other public works, and in the volume of commercial transactions," a contrary result might naturally have been expected. The high Bank rates which have prevailed of late, while they seem to indicate that the silver stocks are scarcely adequate to meet the commercial requirements of the country, at least during certain months of the year, obviously make this slackness in the importation of silver a still greater puzzle. As the *Statist* remarks, the rate of discount in London has all the while been under 3 per cent: so that one would have thought an extremely profitable transaction could have been effected by borrowing in London, buying silver and sending it out to India, especially as silver, measured in gold, has decreased so much in value of recent years while Indian prices have remained virtually stationary. We have, in a word, the extraordinary conjunction of a great straitness in the Indian money market, where the currency is silver, with a great cheapness and plenty of this metal in Europe and America, and at the same time a falling off in silver imports compared with the inflow of years when the attractive conditions were apparently far less powerful."

THE Nizam of Hyderabad and the Maharajah of Mysore have both arrived at Utacamund with a large number of followers, and the Gaekwar of Baroda with his family and many attendants is expected to follow.

TUESDAY, 23RD APRIL.

WE are glad to learn that H. H. Maha Rao Sir Shri Khengarji, K.C.I.E., of Cutch, has been pleased to make a donation of Rs. 4,000 to the Surat Fire Relief Fund.

THE Sikkim negotiations are recommencing. Mr. Hart reached Gnatong, says the *Englishman*, last Saturday, and started on Monday last to Kalimpong to meet Mr. Paul. The Amban will most likely await the result of this interview before taking further action.

DR. BURGESS, Director of the Archæological Survey Department, goes home at the end of this month, and will probably not come out again, as he retires from his appointment by the middle of the year.

THE state of health of His Highness the Maharajah of Benares is again causing his friends some anxiety. His Highness is suffering from fever which is just now somewhat prevalent.

"WHEN a woman marries in Japan," says Mr. Caine, "she deliberately destroys her good looks by staining her teeth jet black. I do not know how it is done, but it gives one quite a shock to meet a nice smartly dressed young woman, with a magnificent chignon of black hair, studded with tortoise shell pins and combs, &c., a jaunty rose stuck at the top, and then to have the whole thing destroyed by a black smile that gives the appearance of the mouth being a vast dark cavern. The notion which inspires the custom is that a girl once married has only attractions for her husband, and must no longer present a pleasing appearance to the world at large."

THE first newspaper in the world was printed in 1457, in Nuremburg, and called the *Gazette*; while the first daily made its appearance in 1615, and was called the *Frankfort Gazette*. In 1622 the first newspaper was started in England. Nineteen years later, or in 164', the first attempt at Parliamentary reporting was made. The first advertisement in any paper appeared in 1648, and the first paper devoted exclusively to advertisements and shipping was published in 1657. The *Gazette de France*, published in Paris in 1731, was the first French newspaper. It was issued daily after May 1, 1792. England, however, had a daily ninety years before this, for the *Daily Courant* was started in 1702. A paper called the *St. Petersburg Gazette* was started in Russia the following year. The first newspaper in America was published in Boston in 1690, by Benjamin Harris. It was a monthly sheet, called *Public Occurences Foreign and Domestic*. It lived but twenty four hours, as the Government suppressed it after the first edition. The first permanent newspaper was its successor, the *Boston News Letter*, published in 1703. The first political paper was the *New York Journal*, published in 1704. In 1744 the *Advertiser* of Philadelphia, the first daily, made its appearance. New York claims the honor of publishing the first penny paper. This was the *Morning Post* started in 1833. The *New York Herald* started in 1835, has the honour of being the first independent paper in America. The first illustrated paper, the *News*, was published in Boston in 1853, and the first religious daily the *Witness* in York in 1870. The *New York Graphic* was the first illustrated daily of the world; it was established in 1873.

A LONDON telegram to the *Pioneer* quotes some English press opinions on the result of the Crawford case. The *Times*, noticing the Secretary of State's despatch, says:—"The result has shown that Lord Reay was ill advised in declining to inform Mr. Crawford of the finding of the Commission. His failure to act promptly on the Commission's Report was a serious lapse of judgment. Lord Cross's decision is a satisfactory one, as it is of the utmost importance that the service should be kept scrupulously clear of the faintest suspicion of corruption." The *Times* severely condemns the Bombay Government for not suspending the native magistrates after their confessed corruption, and regrets that it should have required Lord Cross's authority to impress upon Lord Reay the importance of recognising such a vital principle of Indian administration. The *Pall Mall Gazette* remarks that it is satisfactory to see the vindication of the principle of absolute purity in the Indian administration. The *St. James' Gazette* approves of the dismissal of Mr. Crawford. It adds that the country will be anxious to hear whether this is an isolated case of one of a class. The *Globe* believes that public opinion will be unanimous in its disapproval of Lord Reay's action in re-trying the case. This was a gross violation of the elementary principles of justice, and as great a scandal as Mr. Crawford's borrowing. It urges Lord Reay's removal remarking that his rule has not been a conspicuous success, apart from the present deplorable instance of high-handedness. Apparently, the *Globe* is a little at sea as to the history of the proceedings.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH APRIL.

THE approaching debate on Indian affairs will not, says the *Overland Mail*, afford an opportunity for directing attention to the grievances and claims of the Uncovenanted Services. For some reason or other Mr. Bradlaugh has, at the last moment, withdrawn the motion that previously stood in his name; and substituted one of a less comprehensive and elastic character. His original demand for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the administration of India generally is, for the present at all events, dropped; he now confines himself to the reforms of the Legislative Councils, Supreme and Provincial. As the discussion will doubtless be strictly kept to this one point, the Parliamentary friends of the Uncovenanted officials must wait until the member of Northampton proposes a more general resolution, as it is believed he intends doing, or they obtain a day for Mr. H. S. King's motion. Sir Roper Lethbridge, who, we are sorry to learn, has been rather seriously indisposed, has resumed his Parliamentary duties, and, in the temporary absence of Mr. King, is balloting for a place.

THE Maharajah of Cashmere is said to have issued an invitation to British subjects to emigrate to his territories, and take up lands there on favourable terms for cultivation.

THE inhabitants of Durbhunga are continuing their agitation against the resolution of the local Municipality, passed at a meeting where only 10 out of a total of 21 Commissioners were present, to substitute a personal tax for the houserate hitherto levied. Indirectly, the memorials submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor condemn the Imperial income tax as well as the new imposing proposed by the Durbhunga Municipal Commissioners. For instance, one petition represents "that a tax on person is objectionable in itself. And in no country is this form of taxation so much detested as in this. It leads others to pry into the private circumstances of the people, which the Asiatics do not like at all." At Durbhunga, it seems, "the names of some of the menial servants who draw from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 have been taken down by the assessors as the future assessees." The memorialists add:—"It is true that these poor people stand a chance of being exempted. But even if they get exempted (which is not certain), it would be at the expense of a good deal of time and trouble and some money." His Honor, we trust, will do something to veto a form of taxation which in practical operation would become an engine of extortion and oppression to the poor ryots.

A CORRESPONDENT, who is contributing an account of how he spent nine months in Russia, gives the following description of some of his earliest experiences in the Czar's dominions:—"As we were now in Russia, Russians began to take the place of Poles, but the country still maintained the same monotonous flatness throughout. Every one of the better class wore 'shubas' (fur cloak), but the lower class wore a kind of sheepskin cloak reaching nearly to the knees, and fastened round the waist by a leather belt. This cloak is almost exactly like the 'posteen' worn by the Persians and Afghans, well known to all who have served in Afghanistan or Beluchistan. It is tolerably warm, but not nearly so comfortable as a real Russian shuba, which enables one to bear the most intense cold. The Russians have a proverb, 'heat breaks no bones,' and they seem to put it into practice on most occasions. As soon as it begins to get at all cold they bring their shubas into use, and wear them in weather when an Englishman would simply put on a light overcoat or none at all. A shuba increases the apparent size and importance of the

wearer, and a tolerably large man in one of them looks really enormous."

THURSDAY, 25TH APRIL.

THE *Behar Herald* states :—"Many of our readers will be astonished to hear that Pundit Tarak Brahman Brahmachari, who recently gave a series of lectures during the anniversary of the local *Aryadharma Pracharini Sabha*, has been arrested at Mozufferpore, on the supposition that he is an emissary of Dhulip Singh, and that his real name is Pratap Singh. The so-called Pratap Singh passed Bankipore the other day under Police escort on his way to the land of the Five Rivers, the supposed scene of his future activity. There being no sufficient proof to incriminate him for his supposed identity with Pratap Sing the Brahmachari has since been discharged by the Magistrate.

THE Americans above all people appreciate the art of advertising. The *Detroit Free Press* says :—"Enterprising people are beginning to learn the value of advertising the year round. The persistency of those who are not intimidated by the cry of 'dull times,' but keep their names ever before the public, will surely place them on the right side in the end."

SOME customs of the Abyssinians are interesting. Marriage among these people is a very slight connection dissoluble at any time by either party. The engagement is concluded between the lover and the bride's parents, the bride herself having no voice in the matter. Then the lover carries off the bride *on his shoulders* and the ceremony concludes with a feast. The feast may be interesting, but it is also barbarous. At feasts, the cattle are brought to the door and slaughtered, the flesh, while yet warm and quivering, being brought in to the guests, who eat it with a hearty relish.

THERE is some excitement, we hear, at Secunderabad, in connection with the articles that have lately appeared in the *Hyderabad Record* regarding the Deccan Mining Company. Mehdi Hassan is said to have bitterly complained to the Minister that his confidential report on the scheme submitted by him should have found its way to the papers. The result is that one of the subordinate officials of the Political and Financial Secretary's office is suspected of breach of confidence.

THE other day in the House of Commons, Mr. Fenwick moved a resolution that it was expedient to revert to the ancient custom of paying members for their services. The Home Secretary ridiculed the notion of making payment compulsory, while if it was optional he doubted whether many would accept it. He said there was a vast deal of voluntary work done by other public servants, who would also require remuneration if it was given to members of Parliament. Mr. J. Morley expressed his conviction that the public interest on the subject was increasing. He heartily supported the measures, which emphasised the importance of giving the constituencies the widest possible choice in the selection of their representatives. The motion ended in a count out.

PRINCE BISMARCK has just now celebrated his 74th birthday. The Emperor presented him with a magnificent hound. Replying to a deputation, Prince Bismarck expressed his gratification at the progress made by German manufacturers during the last decade. He hoped the maintenance of peace and continuation of the present favourable prospects would give a still further impetus to the gratifying development of German labour for Germany. Monarchical institutions and the monarchical sentiments of the people constituted an especial guarantee of peace.

A CONCESSION for the construction of railways and causeways in Persia has been granted for five years to Russia, with permission to transfer her rights to others. The rights of navigation over the Sefid Rud and the Enselis lagoon are also conceded to Russia, who, in return, has promised aid to the Persians against the Yomut Turkomans.

DR. RICHARDSON has been engaged on some curious experiments in turning the graphophone to account for medical purposes. The experiments divide themselves under the heads of "pulse reading" and "cough reading." As regards pulse reading, Dr. Richardson has succeeded in taking impressions on wax cylinder of several varieties of pulse—intermittent, irregular, full, quick, and slow—and the respective qualities of each are easily heard. By a more simple process, however, it is found practicable to produce a record readable by the eye on paper, which may be transmitted by post. From recording the pulse on the wax cylinder, he moved on to the recording of coughs and coughing sounds. In this case the results are described as exceedingly definite and practical. The cough had simply to be taken as the speaking and singing voice is taken, and the return cough by the graphophone proved as clearly distinct as the original. On one cylinder four varieties of coughs were taken. In listening to these it is said to be difficult to divest the mind of the belief that it is the patient who is producing the effect by his own efforts. As regards the practical value of these novel applications of one of the latest triumphs of science, Dr. Richardson observes that to be able to compare cough of to-day with a cough of a month or a year ago would be a good clinical observation, and may be so immediately available in the consulting room that he has determined to bring it into practice. For lecture purposes also this would be obviously useful. The sum total of the experiments is that any sound whatever indicative of health or disease and any animal motion of health and disease, that admits of being translated into sound, can be recorded, made permanent, and produced any number of times, either for comparison, demonstration, or observation.

FRIDAY, 26TH APRIL.

BOMBAY is suffering from a strike among owners of all public conveyances. There is not a single licensed carriage or cart plying for hire, and the merchants are so badly inconvenienced by the want of bullock-carts that merchandise has been shifted about the town in trucks lent by the Tramway Company. The strike is owing to a demand by the municipality of a year's license fee in advance.

MR. CHAPLIN has given notice that he will move the following Resolution on the Currency question in the House of Commons on the 30th of this month :—"That the House considers the recent divergence in the value of precious metals is prejudicial in the highest degree to the finances and the Government of India, and seriously adds to the difficulty of trade between the United Kingdom and the countries which possess a silver standard. It is further of opinion that this divergence has been primarily due to monetary changes which have occurred upon the Continent, and to the abandonment of the bi-metallic system which prevailed in certain European countries prior to 1873. It views with great regret the recent prolonged depression of trade and agriculture, and consequent irregularity of employment for most members of the population, to which it believes those changes have contributed in a material degree. It, therefore, urges upon the Government the importance of consulting nations such as Germany, the United States, France, and other countries which comprise the Latin Union, as to their readiness to join with the United Kingdom in a conference, for the purpose of considering whether, and how far, a bi-metallic system can be re-established by international agreement in the interest of all the nations and communities concerned."

RUMOURS are current in financial circles in London that the Chancellor of the Exchequer intends shortly to issue one pound notes payable in gold, and tenshilling notes payable in silver. Speaking of this the *Pioneer* writes :—"The issue of one pound notes payable in gold would, it is estimated, release from eight to twenty millions sterling, and this would, for the moment at all events, ease the pressure on the gold market caused by the drain of the metal to America. The issue of the tenshilling notes again, would enable the halfsovereigns to be gradually called in, and would help to restore confidence in the future of the dis-credited metal. On the other hand it is extremely doubtful whether these measures would have any direct effect on the level of prices ; it is probable they would result rather in preventing a further fall in the value of silver than in helping to restore it to its former position, and even this partial result would of necessity be transitory. As the bimetallist Commissioners insisted in their special report, the only permanent solution of the currency problem is to be found in the establishment of a fixed legal ratio, and we shall regard the resort to a fiduciary issue as beneficial or the contrary, precisely as we think it likely to prepare the public mind in this direction or to be mistaken for the only possible remedy."

THE Ameer of Afghanistan is turning his attention, the Lahore paper's trans-frontier advices state, to the extreme north-east corner of his territory, where the debateable lands of Shignan and Roshan are separated by the Hindoo Kush from Chitral. He has despatched a man whom he can trust to Zebak, where the fortress of Shah Abdool Kakim is to be rebuilt for the accomodation of an increased military force. This will, among other purposes, serve to dominate the only north-western outlet from Chitral.

THE English papers report that the Emperor William was profoundly moved when the intelligence of the disaster at Samoa reached him, and at once consulted Prince Bismarck. Germany is sending two more and America three vessels to Samoa. The Nationalist Press in Germany urge the public not to permit their colonial ardour to cool. President Harrison is said to have remarked that, but for the loss of life, there need not be much regret at the destruction of a few obsolete vessels.

SATURDAY 27TH APRIL.

WE learn that the Shah of Persia has started on his visit to Europe. His Majesty left Teheran on the 13th instant *en route* for Tabriz ; he goes *via* Tiflis and Moscow to St. Petersburg where he will remain for six days as the guest of the Czar. Travelling thence by way of Warsaw, Berlin and Holland he proposes reaching England in June and staying twenty-five days. The return journey will be made through Paris, Switzerland and Constantinople, Teheran being reached by September. The Shah's suite numbers some forty including the Prime Minister and the chief officials, but none of the Shah's sons will accompany him.

THE Princes of Wales has, says the *Home News*, graciously consented to become Patron of the branch of the National Association for Supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India which is now being formed in the United Kingdom. The Duke of Westminster, the Marchioness of Salisbury, the Lord Mayor, Lord Randolph Churchill, the Countess of Aberdeen, the Marquis of Ripon, and many others have already joined the general committee, which the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava is organising in London, in correspondence with the Central Committee in India. Admiral John Robertson, of 65, Kensington Garden-square, has been appointed honorary secretary to the executive Committee, consisting of the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, Lady Grant Duff, Lady Lyall, Sir Charles Aitchison, Lord Brassey, Sir James Peile, Sir Charles Bernard, Major Harry Cooper, Mr. Ilbert, and Mr. T. Sutherland, M. P.

THE Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces is, we hear, preparing a municipal and sanitary measure for submission to the Government of India with a view to legislation being undertaken.

NEWS comes from Hyderabad that the Nawab Mehdi Ali will not after all sever his connection with the Nizam's Government, as Sir Asman Jah has, it is stated, dissuaded him from his intention to resign.

BEARING in view the present unsettled state of Burmah it has been decided to reduce the forces there by only one brigade.

A BOMBAY telegram states that the Negus has been defeated and slain in battle, and that his country is in a state of complete anarchy. King John was killed while fighting against the Dervishes. Two encounters took place on the frontier between the Abyssinians and Soudanese ; in the second engagement at Metemeh, the Negus was mortally wounded. King Menelek went to help him ; so that if the news of the death of the Negus is true, a struggle may be expected between King Menelek, Debeb, and the Dervishes, as all three will probably think they have claims to King John's successions. King John can have left no son and heir.

RELATIVE to the allegations of bribery during the municipal elections at Puna, already reported, the Bombay Government has issued a Resolution, saying that the reported prevalence of bribery is a feature which must be greatly deplored.

THE whole of the documents in the Crawford case have now been made public, and their bulk is a fair measure of the importance of the enquiry and the interest that has been taken in it in England as well as in India. In the first place there is a volume of 342 pages, containing a verbatim report of the proceedings of the Commission. The exhibits for the prosecution form a volume of 303 pages, and exhibits for the defence form another volume of 290 pages. These three volumes have been fairly anticipated in the press. The Commissioners' report occupies no less than 120 pages. The minute in which Sir Raymond West protests, in the name of the Bombay Government, against the finding of the Commissioners, fills 35 pages, and then comes a brief letter from the Governor of Bombay in Council, which does little more than cover Sir Raymond West's elaborate minute.

THE Mohunt Maharaj Madhub Giri of Tarkeswar has made a donation of Rs. 100 to the District Charitable Society.

THE second Criminal Sessions of the High Court commence on Monday next, and will be presided over by Mr. Justice Norris.

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The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1889.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION

III.

WE have said before that if the finances of India are to be placed upon a sound and satisfactory footing, the Government should not only maintain the existing sources of revenue, but also enforce rigid economy in all branches of the administration. In the course of the debate upon the Budget Raja Durga Churn Law pointed out that although the expenditure in some of the Departments has been cut down, there is yet further room for economy especially in the Public Works Department and in the Home charges. The Raja said :—"The curtailment of high official salaries wherever practicable will also, I hope, engage the attention of the Executive Government. But it is not in India alone that there is room for economy. The charges in England —the Home charges—are a severe drain upon the resources of the country. We find that the expenditure in England is a great deal more than the country can bear. This year the budget estimate of the amount to be remitted to England on account of the Secretary of State's Bills is £14,690,900, equivalent to about 21 crores of rupees. In other words, nearly one-fourth of our revenue is drawn by the Secretary of State. There is an absolute necessity for reducing this amount, and unless this is done, small savings here and there in India will not afford any appreciable relief to Indian finance. The financial position of the Empire renders it imperative that all expenditure not absolutely necessary should be cut down. But the Government do not show much inclination to do it. When the Finance Committee was appointed three years ago, it was hoped that some appreciable savings would be effected in the public expenditure. The proposals made by the Committee for the retrenchment of the incomes enjoyed by the Provincial Governments were at once carried out. They were indeed, adopted before the Committee had submitted their final report. But the other recommendations made by them have not yet been given effect to and there is no knowing when that will be done. It is well known that the instructions given to the Committee by the Government of India placed considerable restrictions upon their functions. The Committee were not empowered to propose any changes in the organic structure of the administration. All questions of principle were entirely beyond the field of their enquiries. They had merely to deal with details. Nevertheless, the Committee made a very large number of recommendations for reductions of various kinds, which have not yet been adopted by the Government. The economies in Provincial and Imperial expenditure suggested by Sir Charles Elliott and his colleagues would, if effected, have amounted to something like a crore and-a-half. But the Government of India, as we have said above, merely accepted the proposal for cutting down the incomes of the Provincial Governments by 70 lakhs per annum; while the other economies suggested by the Finance Committee have been practically ignored. Then, the most important recommendations made by the Army Commission which assembled at Simla ten years ago, under the presidency of the late Sir Ashley Aden have not yet been adopted. The Commission anticipated that if the changes proposed by them were carried out, the savings would amount to a crore and-a-quarter.

But as Raja Durga Churn Law pertinently observed, it is not in India alone that there is room for economy. A complete overhauling of the Home charges has become absolutely necessary. But here again the Government does not seem disposed to take any action, and hold out any hopes of a reduction. Sir David Barbour, in replying to the criticisms on his Financial statement, endeavoured to make out that although the Home charges are large in amount they are not capable of reduction. He said :—Owing to the method of administration of this country a large number of bills are drawn by the Secretary of State for India which in the case of other countries would be drawn by private persons and would therefore escape observation. A portion of the drawing of the Secretary of State is intended to meet the cost of stores required by the Government of India. I see no way of reducing this charge unless somebody can be found who will supply stores for nothing, and that is a contingency which we need not consider. A large portion of the drawings represents the interests on capital invested in railways and other public works in India. Some of that capital has been raised at a little over 3 per cent per annum, a large portion at 3½ per cent. per annum, and another portion at 4 per cent., while the capital of the older guaranteed companies was raised at 5 per cent per annum. On the whole the capital has been raised at a very moderate rate of interest, and India derives great benefit from the public works in which it has been invested. I see no means of reducing this portion of the Home charges unless we are prepared to repudiate our obligations while retaining all the benefits for the sake of which they were incurred. This is a course which, it is needless to say my Hon'ble friend would not recommend. There remain the administrative and military charges, which, speaking from memory, I would put at about £7,000,000. If my hon'ble friend or any other member of this Council can point out any way in which these charges can equitably be reduced, I shall feel it my duty to give him every support, and, I am sure Your Excellency's Government will not fail to press the question with the authority which the Government of India can command." Now, if the Home charges are not at all capable of reduction, why did Lord Cross, we should like to ask, appoint a committee last year to enquire into them. We would not have the Government repudiate its obligations to pay interest on the money it has borrowed for public works in this country. But we have no hesitation whatever in saying that in the administrative and military charges which amount to 7 millions sterling and in the purchase of Government stores there is room for economy. The late Mr. Fawcett has justly remarked in his admirable volume on Indian Finance that if the Government is determined that no effort shall be spared to secure every possible retrenchment in all branches of the public service, it will not do to deal merely with matters of detail but that the system of Indian administration will have to be radically changed. Sir David Barbour will no deny that if India were permitted to have a local European army of her own as in the premitive era, an enormous reduction would be effected in her military charges. It has been repeatedly pointed out by the highest authorities that although the system of short service is a good arrangement for England, it does not necessarily follow that that system is calculated to promote either the economy or the efficiency of the military organization of India. We know that India has at the present time to pay at least twice as much for her recruits as she would have to pay if she could obtain them for herself. She has been compelled to become a partner in the costly military organization of England, and the English War office throws upon her many charges which she would not have to bear if she were allowed to obtain recruits on her own terms, and make her own arrangements with the officers she employed. The pay of the private soldier and the non-commissioned officer is the same in India as in England; but the commissioned officers of the higher ranks are paid when serving in this country at least three times as much as at home. India is surely not a worse place for an English officer to live in than China. When he is stationed in the Flowery Land his pay is provided by the English tax-payer, and the amount he receives is much the same as if he were serving at home. The case however, is widely different when the same officer is sent to India. But even if India be not allowed to withdraw from the partnership with England into which she has been compelled to enter in the matter of the army, still the voiceless Indian tax-payer would have some relief if the army expenditure were fairly apportioned between the two countries. It is notorious that as matters now stand when the respective financial interests of England and India are in question, sufficient care is not taken to protect India. Poor and helpless India is in many instances made to bear charges which ought in all fairness to be paid by the British tax-payer.

The extravagance with which Indian affairs are conducted in England is notorious. The English Treasury bears the cost of the Colonial office and therefore everything connected with it is managed with the most rigid economy. But as the India office is maintained at the cost of the voiceless Indian tax-payer, it is kept upon a most lavish scale indeed. The total cost of the Colonial office is only about £40,000 as against nearly a quarter of a million sterling spent on the India office. A comparison between the rates of pay in the India office and the other offices shows that for precisely the same work done in England a poor country like India pays 20 or 30 per cent more than is paid by England with all her wealth. The entire cost of the India office should be brought down to something like £10,000, and we have no doubt that this would have been done if the expenditure had fallen upon the British Exchequer. Is it not also monstrous that India should go on paying £15,000 a year towards Her Majesty's establishments in China and £10,000 yearly for an English Mission to the Court of Persia? Then, as regards the purchase of Government stores by the India office, it is a scandal of long standing. The reader may recollect that so far back as 1870 this question was ventilated with some animation at the great anti-Income-Tax meeting held by the Calcutta public in that year. Mr. Eldridge one of the speakers at the meeting, who was then Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce and also a member of the Calcutta Port Trust Committee, brought some startling facts to public notice. He pointed out that not only was the price of stores purchased by the India office very high, but the freight paid was also most excessive. The theory is that the Store Department of the India office *should be able* to obtain stores of as good a quality and at as cheap a price as they can be obtained through local Agency in India, the employment of which involves the payment of a commission. But in this, as in other matters, the practice does not unfortunately coincide with the theory. Mr. Eldridge, at the meeting of which mention has been made above, informed his hearers to their great astonishment that the cost of laying down chains for the new screw moorings had been 30 or 40 per cent above what they could have been obtained through other sources than the Secretary of State. Mr. Eldridge also told his audience that by the *Latina* had been shipped to Port Canning about 366 tons of Government stores at 44 shillings per ton, or nearly double the current rate of the date by first class ships to Calcutta direct. Nineteen years have elapsed since then and other disclosures were made by Mr. Eldridge; but the scandal still exists and the India Office contractors are flourishing as before. We should very much like to know whether in the teeth of the facts Sir David Barbour would have us believe that there is no room for economy in the purchase of Government stores by the India Office.

SANSKRIT STUDIES IN AMERICA.*

THE last mail has brought to Calcutta a new book which is deserving of the notice of our readers. Ostensibly it is, like the numberless Readers which are from time to time poured forth from the Calcutta press no other than a Sanskrit Reader by Mr. Lanman, Professor of Sanskrit, Harvard College, Cambridge, United States, but really it marks a new era in the history of Sanskrit studies. It has resorted to a wide field for selection, and brought together a more scholarly and varied mass of reading than what we have hitherto met with in our Calcutta publications, and at the same time it has kept clear of all high-flown and difficult compositions. The cardinal idea of a first Reader has been carefully borne in mind; nevertheless extracts have been given from the *Rig Veda Sanhita*, the *Yajur Veda Brahmana*, the *Grihya Sutras* and other works which Calcutta redacteurs have never thought of.

* A Sanskrit Reader with Vocabulary and Notes. By Charles Rockwell Lanman. Boston, 1888.

These serve to give to the reader, in a small compass, a graphic picture of primitive life in India, and are throughout very interesting. It is to be noted, however, that the Calcutta "Entrance Courses" to which we refer are intended for students who will have to acquire a more thorough knowledge of the Sanskrit language than most of the American students will ever require, and text-books for the latter should, to a certain extent differ from what are intended for our Bengali boys. Interesting as the extracts we refer to are, they belong to different stages in the development of Sanskrit Grammar, and are so far calculated to bewilder little boys who are preparing for the Entrance test; therefore they would not be always appropriate in India. In the case of American students this objection does not apply. They take up Sanskrit at a latter stage of their school career, when they have acquired a considerable amount of knowledge of two such ancient classical languages as the Greek and the Latin. They, moreover, learn Sanskrit mostly for philological purposes and they do not require the same kind of elementary knowledge of grammatical niceties as the Indian boys who have to pass strict examinations in the grammar of the classical Sanskrit as distinguished from the archæical language of the Vedas. Those differences necessitate differences in the text-books, and it would be unfair to make any comparison without bearing these facts in mind. This much, however, may be said that Mr. Lanman's book is remarkably well adapted for the purposes for which it is designed. In the words of Mr, Lanman: "The Reader is designed, in the second place, to render a knowledge of Sanskrit accessible to the classical teachers of high schools, academies, and colleges. These teachers, if they pursue this study at all, usually do so without the aid of an instructor. And it is especially *the requirements of unaided private study* that I have taken constant pains to meet." It supplies in a single volume both a reader and a dictionary, along with a mass of miscellaneous information which here in Calcutta we have to look for from a variety of sources, or what comes to about the same thing, in what are called "meaning books" which are so vexatious and troublesome in this country. We notice that the bulk of the book, the text and vocabulary are marked as "second issues." That shows that the book has been well recieved in America. It proves too that the ancient Classics of our native land are held in high estimation among the more forward nations of the West. Professor Salisbury was, we believe, the first to make Sanskrit a subject of College teaching. His successor, Professor Whitney, has given us a Grammar of the Sanskrit language, besides several advanced books, not excepting the Hymns of the *Atharva Veda*. Professor Avery, Dr. Perry, Professor Hopkins, Dr. Jackson and others have also done much to advance the cause of Sanskrit in their country. Seeing this our regret becomes keen that valued as Sanskrit is in Europe and America it is on its last legs in its native land. It is rumoured that between our Lieutenant Governor, Sir Steuart Bayley, and the Director of Public Instruction, Sir Alfred Croft a plan is hatching for the abolition of the Sanskrit College of Calcutta, in order to employ its house for the location of a smithery or a shoe-maker's shop or something like it, under the name of a Technical school. It is difficult to believe that Sir Steuart Bayley would lend his name to such an act of vandalism; but he is labouring under sinister influences, and with the project of reducing all education to the elementary three R's, the rumour does not seem to be altogether inconsistent. High education seems to encourage National Congresses and native editors, and the *Englishman* has already advocated more than once the abolition of all higher English schools, and Sir Alfred Croft has, in his last speech at the Doveton, advised the abolition of Collegiate tuition for even English boys; and compared to it Sanskrit can have no claim to consideration.

LORD REAY AND THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

LORD Reay recently addressed a meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on several important questions in which the public is interested. His Lordship was introduced to the meeting by Mr. Forbes Adam, the President of the Chamber, who remarked that hitherto the Chamber had interchanged views with the Government through the ordinary laborious and round about process of official correspondence, but now they had the advantage of hearing from the lips of the head of the Government how their representations had been received and considered. The presence of the Governor was, indeed, a privilege and a notable occurrence and we join with Mr. Forbes-Adam in hoping that the noble example set by Lord Reay will be followed by the heads of the other Government. The opportunities which our rulers have of speaking out their minds are so few that we cannot sufficiently admire the present Governor of Bombay for his taking the public into confidence in the novel way he has done.

The main object of Lord Reay's address was to deal with the matters discussed in the letter of the Bombay Chamber dated the 12th June, 1886. The first demand made by the Chamber in that letter was for retrenchment in the salaries of the Civil Establishment of Government and for the advancement of Natives in high offices. These questions, Lord Reay pointed out, were now before the Secretary of State. His Lordship however, pointed out that in a large number of cases the salaries attached to high posts had been reduced, several offices abolished and several others amalgamated. He observed that the saving had been made with due regard to the efficiency of the administration, which so far from being impaired, had rather improved in consequence of the changes which had been effected in it. It is true that retrenchments have been made in various departments of the Administration in Bombay, but we have no hesitation whatever in saying that much still remains to be done in this direction. The Finance Committee in their Provincial notes have shown that reductions to the extent of about 4 lakhs could be made by the Government of Bombay. We do not think that all the suggestions made by the Committee have yet been adopted by Lord Reay. If so, no time should be lost in considering and giving effect to them so far as may be possible to do so. Lord Reay tells us that the contribution which the Government of India had demanded from the Bombay Government during the past four years had amounted to a total of 88¼ lakhs, and his Lordship says that the state of the revenue of the Presidency did not render it very difficult to bear the burden. We are very glad to hear this; but we must say that Bombay has been able to meet the demands of the Supreme Government without difficulty simply because they had been treated with exceptional consideration on the occasion of the Provincial contracts of 1882. But the other Provinces from which contributions have been levied by the Supreme Government stand in a very different position. They have found it extremely difficult to meet the demands of the Government of India. Referring to the exodus question Lord Reay said:—"It was alleged that large sums had been spent by different Governors upon their residences according to their whims. Speaking for himself he had been guilty of no greater extravagance than ordering the re-construction of the stables attached to Government House, Malabar Point, as it had become necessary to do so. Further it was thought important to extend Bella Vista, Mahableshwar, in order to accommodate the distinguished visitors who found their way to India every season from England. The allegations of extravagance in connection with emigration to the hills were made not against the present Governor of Bombay, but against some of his predecessors, who were notoriously guilty in this respect. The correctness of those allegations cannot for an instant be questioned and Lord Reay did not attempt to show that they were unfounded.

On the question of education Lord Reay made the following remarks:—"The general public laboured under a wrong impression when it thought that the present policy of Government was to withdraw support from public educational institutions. The fact was that expenditure had not been reduced; it had increased." In order to establish this fact, Lord Reay stated that the expenditure in 1884-85 was 12 lakhs, whereas in the current year it would amount to 16 lakhs. Again, the grants-in-aid given to educational institutions in 1884-85 amounted to 2 lakhs, in 1885-86 they amounted to 3 lakhs, and from 1886-87 to 1888-89 they amounted to 4 lakhs every year. It is true that the total expenditure on public institutions has increased; but the complaint of the public is that the allotment for high education has been cut down. This course ought not to be adopted so long as the people are not in a position to provide for their high education. We admit that the framers of the famous despatch of 1854 which our countrymen look upon as their educational charter looked forward to the time when it would be possible for the Government to withdraw from the direct management of higher educational institutions; but at the same time they recorded in plain and emphatic terms their opinion that the policy prescribed should not be followed if its adoption should abandon one single institution to probable decay. The opponents of high education in their eagerness to give effect to the views of the authors of the despatch of 1854 conveniently overlook the important proviso of which we have made mention. Lord Reay alluded to the agitation started in Manchester to introduce the Factory Act into India on the lines of English agitation and observed:—"It was an extremely important question and it showed how careful the Government ought to be not to impose English legislation on India without due care. The Chamber had hoisted the danger signal and had, as was its wont, given a very clear and definite expression of opinion on the subject. His Excellency said that he would not discuss that extremely important question on that occasion but he would simply say that the opinion of the Chamber was cordially endorsed by the Government and that Government would be glad to co-operate with the Chamber in preventing legislation which was absolutely uncalled-for and which would be as futile as it would be inconvenient to the great town over which that Chamber presided." It is satisfactory to learn that the Government of Bombay will cordially co-operate with the local Chamber of Commerce in frustrating the efforts of the commercial philanthropits of Lancashire to impose the English Factory Act on India. In touching upon the subject of free trade, Lord Reay paid a very graceful tribute to the memory of the late Mr. John Bright and warmly acknowledged the readiness with which Native Chiefs had agreed in many instances to abolish transit duties which used to hamper trade in so great a degree. Lord Reay expressed a hope that Municipalities in British territory would themselves set a good example by abolishing such octroi duties levied by them as were only transit duties in a veiled form. As this question is a most important one, we will not take up at the fag-end of an article, but reserve it for separate treatment in a future issue.

TWO SUBORDIN ATE JUDGES AT MONGHYR.

WE have been obliged to take up this subject again as it seems to us it is a sheer waste of public money to keep up this establishment any longer. We propose to go into the whole history of the matter.

A principal Sudder Amin was appointed for the first time at Monghyr about the year 1855. Ten years after the Government found reasons to remove his Court to Bhagalpore and from the year 1865 down to October 1886—a period of about 21 years—all cases above 1,000 Rupees in value were decided by two Subordinate Judges located at Bhagalpore, one holding the powers of a Small Cause Court Judge, who also tried Small Cause Court cases at Bhagalpore, and at Monghyr. The Sub-Judge when going to Monghyr received only travelling charges. Occasionally if the file became heavy, an additional Sub-Judge or an additional Judge was appointed, to dispose of the accumulated work, but this was an exception. During this interval of 21 years

the questionof permanently locating a Subordinate Judge at Monghyr was raised from time to time by some interested persons. Upon a representation being made a report was called for from the then District Judge Mr. J. M. Lowis. He submitted an elaborate report against the proposal. His concluding words were :—"The difficulty of equalizing the work, and the other reasons I have noticed render it advisable that things should remain as they are, the more so as the present arrangement has worked without complaint or objections for the last eight years". Some of the people of Monghyr again raised the question, in 1876, and Mr. Lowis reported that "the difficulty of distributing the appeals under the arrangement would be greatly enhanced and the Government of Bengal in their letter dated 2nd April 1877, decided against the proposal in accordance with the recommendation of the High Court.

In 1881 when Mr. Verner had newly joined the District as Judge and when he had not much experience of the District some of the townspeople of Monghyr who were in favour of a Court there succeeded in persuading him to recommend to the High Court the establishment of a Sub-Judge's Court at Monghyr; but the High Court said "that no new grounds have been advanced in the present application. All the points now urged have twice been fully considered and there was no sufficient ground to reopen the question."

The question was dropped until August 1886. When Sir Rivers Thompson went to Monghyr on his autumnal tour, some of the people of Monghyr, prayed for the appointment of a Sub-Judge at that station. Sir Rivers Thompson without regard to the previous orders of Government on the subject and without consulting the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court, or the District Judges in a resolution of September 1886 directed the location of a Sub-Judge at Monghyr from October 1886, as an experimental measure leaving the High Court to report upon the working of the experiment after 6 months.

After about a year's working of the experiment and an experience of seven years by the District Judge Mr. Verner, who when he first joined the District in 1881 had recommended the adoption of the measure, submitted a report condemning it entirely. We think it necessary to make a few extracts from his report.

"The Original cases of a value exceeding R 1000 in the 5 years 1881—1885 were for Monghyr 779, as against 702 for Bhagalpore. No very great disparity the appeals from decisions of Munsiffs showed however a very much greater disproportion. The figure for the same five years were for Monghyr 2272 and for Bhagalpore 1312.

"I am sure that in considering the question of the retention of a Sub-Judge at the town of Monghyr, it is not profitable to regard the matter as one of fair play between the Districts of Bhagalpore and Monghyr. For the purposes of Civil Justice, these two, as known for fiscal and criminal administration as Bhagalpore and Monghyr, form the one district of Bhagalpore. It is idle to suggest or to argue that because for other purposes this forms two Districts one with its head quarters at the town of Monghyr, and the other with its head quarters at the town of Bhagalpore, there is a *prima facie* case for a Sub-Judge at the town of Monghyr. The real question is this : where can the two Sub-Judges attached to the Civil district of Bhagalpore be stationed most conveniently and efficiently.

"In favor of placing the Sub-Judge at Monghyr there is the convenience of the people of that town and its neighbourhood there is no doubt that many of the residents of the town and its neighbourhood, especially persons of the well to-do classes indulge the wish that the Sub-Judge be stationed at the town of Monghyr. It may be assumed that the feeling prevails throughout a great part of the Sudder Sub-Division of Monghyr.

"The fiscal district of Monghyr is composed of 3 Sub-Divisions, the Sudder, Begasaraie and Jumui. Now, Monghyr town is nearer to the Sub-Division of Begusaraie and Jamui than is the town of Bhagalpore. Now, first as regards Begusaraie when I last wrote on the subject access was much easier from Begusaraie to Monghyr than from Begusarie to Bhagalpur, but since then the Tirhoot State Railway has been opened and many residents of Begusarie start by it to Mokameh and thence by rail to Bhagulpore or Monghyr. Residents of Jumui coming to Bhagalpore or Monghyr ordinarily travel by train. The train journey either from Jumui or Begusarie is rather longer to Bhagalpore than to Monghyr, but on the other hand travellers to Bhagulpore have not to change carriages and undergo tedious wait (never mind the time table) at Jamalpore.

"Roughly speaking it may be said that a Sub-Judge stationed at Monghyr is easier of access to the people of the Sudder Sub-Division while for the other two Sub-Divisions the case of access is much the same whether he be at Monghyr town or Bhagalpore.

"There are the following disadvantages in having one of the Sub-Judges stationed at Monghyr :

"(1) In appeals to the district from the decision of Sub-Judge new Pleaders must be engaged.

"(2) It compels many litigants to keep legal agents at Bhagalpore and Monghyr.

"(3) The distance of the Court from the district record room is inconvenient both in original suits and appeals heard by the Sub-Judge.

"(4) It breaks up the Bar, and one large Bar is likely to be better than two small ones. A good Bar is a very important consideration."

"(5) It removes the Court of the Sub-Judge as well as Pleaders, and Mooktears from the immediate supervision of the District Judge."

"(6) The Monghyr *B*ar must always be weak as compared with the Bhagulpore Bar and this is hardly fair to the suitors. As a result in more important cases barristers and others will be brought to Monghyr from a distance at a great expense.

"(7) The fact of appeals from the decisions of Munsiffs of Monghyr being very numerous is no reason for placing a Sub-Judge at Monghyr. The one Sub-Judge cannot dispose of them, nor even the greater part of them. Parties in many cases will have two States of Pleaders."

After the submission of this report the High Court, we understand, supported Mr. Verner's views condemning the action taken by Sir Rivers. We do not know how in the face of the opinions of the several District Judges, and in spite of the condemnation of the measure by the High Court Sir Steuart Bayley is justified in maintaining the Court at Monghyr any longer which his predecessor had established only as an experiment.

The result of the experimental measure has been, that Baboo Opendro Chunder Mullick who was located at Monghyr was not capable of coping with the work, his health broke down and he was obliged to go away on leave and finally to another District. The Government instead of reverting to the old arrangement, which existed for 21 years, as recommended by the High Court has appointed a separate additional Sub-Judge at Monghyr under an extraordinary sanction obtained from the Secretary of State. The work which during 21 years, from 1865 to 1886, was to be performed by two Sub-Judges assisted occasionally by a third, is now being done by four Sub-Judges, namely, two at Bhagalpore and two at Monghyr. The District Judge who used formerly to do his proper share of Munsiff's Appeals, has disposed of very few appeals of the kind since Mr. Verner left the district, and the Sub-Judges who used to take up Small Cause Court cases have been relieved of those up to Rs. 50. Still the District of United Bhagalpore and Monghyr has four Courts of Subordinate Judges. It is needless to say that there is not full work for them and that public money is wasted. We believe that if the old arrangement is reverted to, and the District Judge takes up his proper share of work instead of leaving Court so early as he does, accumulation of work can easily be kept down with the assistance of only one additional Sub-Judge for a few months.

We understand that on receipt of the High Court report, enquiry was made from the District Judge whether there was accommodation in the Court building at Bhagalpore for the Sub-Judge from Monghyr. The present District Judge had after the transfer of the Subordinate Judge's Court to Monghyr utilized the Additional Judge's room for his clerks, and although there was accommodation for a third Judge, a report was made that there was no accommodation in the Court building. The Judge knew or should have known that accommodation was available in the Commissioner's Office, as well as in the Circuit House which are a few yards from the Civil Court buildings, and thus public money for renting a house at Monghyr would have been saved, as well as the cost of salary of an additional Sub-Judge with establishment.

We would invite the serious attention of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor to the subject, and we trust early steps will be taken to give effect to the re-peated advice of the High Court in this matter.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

His Honor the Lieutant Governor left for Chittagong on Thursday last. The departure was private. His Honor was accompanied by Mr. Ware Edgar, Chief Secretary, Mr. Martin, Secretary in the Public Works Department, and Mr. P. C. Lyon, Private Secretary.

IN consequence of the Belgian Government threatening the expulsion of Boulanger from the country, the General has taken refuge in England. General Boulanger arrived at Charing Cross station on Wednesday where he was met by a great crowd of people who received him with mingled cheers and groans.

THE Secretary of State has refused sanction to Mr. Risley's deputation to Paris in connection with the Ethnological Court at the Paris Exhibition. In spite of the regrets of a contemporary we cannot help thinking that the decision is sound and shows common sense.

ABOUT eight thousand and seven hundred rupees have been secured by the Surat Fire Relief Committee in Calcutta. More aid is urgently and immediately needed and the response to the appeal that has been made on behalf of the unfortunate sufferers, ought to be ready in order to be effectual.

ON Friday before last an attack was made by certain *dervishes* on Port Halaib, the garrison of which, after defending the place for some time, were compelled to take refuge on board an Egyptian gunboat. The garrison lost five in killed. The Governor of Suakin with a battalion of black troops has gone with the object of recapturing Halaib from the Dervishes.

IT is satisfactory to notice that the Board of Revenue is acting up to Sir Steuart Bayley's intention to minimise the evil of the outstill system. It has lately been ruled that in the event of any outstill being closed, or remaining unlet on the 1st of April, every care is to be taken to see that no liquor remains in the possession of the late license-holder, and that his license is recalled. Adequate measures are also to be taken at the same time to prevent the still being worked clandestinely, and the Magistrate is to issue stringent orders to the Police to help the Excise officers in carrying out these instructions. The abolition of the system which is expected at an early date, as we announced in our last issue, will be the most effective solution of the whole question.

WE much regret to learn that Moulavi Kabiruddin Ahmed died of cholera on Monday last. He was an accomplished Arabic scholar and a public-spirited citizen. He received the title of *shams-ululma* and Khan Bahadur. As a Municipal Commissioner and as an Honorary Magistrate he was always ready to do his civil duties and was well known as the Editor of the *Mahomedan Observer* and the late *Urdu-Guide*. He was also a fellow of the Calcutta University and a Justice of the Peace.

THE way in which coercive measures are being taken in Ireland is significantly demonstrated by the following announcement of Reuter. "Mr. Conybeare, who actively sided with the tenants at recent evictions in Donegal, has been summoned to appear before the Magistrate at Falcarragh on a charge of conspiracy to resist the law." It is difficult to gather what "active siding" means. But if siding, no matter active or passive, with unfortunate evicted tenants can by strain of law be construed as criminal, philanthropists in Ireland must be in a bad way indeed. On such counts the very lawyer who attempted any defence of the helpless peasantry might well be brought in guilty. We are thankful that we are permitted to live under a system of law that has not been relaxed down so far. But those that cry down landlordism in India may well study the course of affairs in Ireland and be surprised at the ridiculous nature of their own ideas. Is it any wonder under circumstances like these that Home Rulers should be bitterly exasperated and pursue the end they have in view by means that their own better judgment may not wholly approve of?

A CASE of some interest to the legal profession and to owners of houses as well as their tenants has been lately decided by Mr. K. M. Chatterjee, a Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. A tenant whose lease was prepared by his

lessor's attorneys objected to pay their costs on the ground of there being no privity between him and them. Mr. Chatterjee in his judgment observed :—"In the absence of any contract to the contrary, the lessee is responsible for the costs of the lease, and I am not so sure that the lessee in this particular instance, by consenting to let the plaintiffs draw up the lease, did not accept a direct liability towards them, specially as the defendant admits in his examination that, as he understood from the beginning, he was bound to contribute his share of the costs of the lease."

Lord Cross has invited tenders, which will be received up to the 30th instant, for a three per cent. loan of £3,500,000 for the purpose of constructing railways in India and discharging debentures. The minimum rate will be 99. This is less by a quarter of a million sterling than was anticipated by Sir David Barbour in his Financial Statement.

On Friday last the Editor of the *Indian Daily News*, in spite of the reports of the daily papers, discovered that at the last annual meeting of the British Indian Association Raja Durgachurn Law "indulged in a piece of silly buffoonery" in the course of a comparison of Lord Dufferin's Jubilee speech of February 1887 and his speech at St. Andrew's dinner of November 1888. This was unfortunate. Our contemporary is generally sharp-witted, and his mistake in the present instance was unaccountable. The Raja is a clear-headed man of business who never indulges in "silly buffoonery." On the occasion in question, he did not notice Lord Dufferin's St. Andrews din er speech at all. On Saturday the Editor found out his mistake and made the *amende honorable*. In doing so, however, he fell foul of Raja Rajendralala Mitra, saying that his "remarks on the subject should apply to the latter." This attribution too is unfortunate. From a full report of the proceedings of the last annual meeting of the British Indian Association which we publish elsewhere, it will be seen that Raja Rajendralala's speech on the occasion was a thorough business one, which cannot by any stretch of imagination be charactarised as "silly buffoonery". He did not at all refer to Lord Dufferin's Jubilee speech. He noticed that the opinion of Lord Dufferin as given in his despatch on the re-organisation of the Legislative Council, was opposed to what his Lordship said at the dinner, and it was perfectly legitimate and to the point. The despatch and the dinner speeches came within a few days of each other, and the difference between them cannot be accounted for on the supposition that "a four year's experience of this country had led his Lordship to change his opinion." We refuse too, to admit the fact, that the dinner speech "had been prepared with 'great care', and "intended to be the most important public utterance of Lord Dufferin's Viceroyalty". A consummate statesman of Lord Dufferin's standing could not deliberately stigmatize publicly a whole body of highly educated gentlemen, the representatives of "the light and leading" of a whole subject nation as mere Phætons rushing to perdition. To say so would be to do a much greater injustice to his Lordship, than to account for it as a mere ebulition of temper at an unguarded moment, in course of an important post-prandeal speech. Such, if a charge it be, might disturb the oleaginity of Jeames, but it could not, we thought, ruffle the temper of men of ordinary common sense, much less of hard-fighting editors of daily papers.

The *Indian Daily News* says :—"Whatever else he has done or omitted to do, there is no doubt that Sir Henry fought manfully for the Municipality, when it appeared almost to be threatened with extinction some years ago. From the Commissioners at any rate he is entitled, to respect if they regard their office as one which a citizen may be proud to hold." This is, however, putting a wrong interpretation to what did actually occur. The charges brought by Justice Cunningham and his associates were all directed against Sir Henry Harrison as the Chairman of the Municipality, and not against the native Commissioners; and it was to strengthen his defence that he included the native Justices as of his party. The native Justices at the time would have been fully justified in defending themselves by throwing the blame entirely upon their Chairman, and he avoided that unpleasant contingency by fighting under the ægis of the Native Commissioners. That he bore them no good will was made manifest when, after the battle, when he had the recasting of the Municipal Act, he did his utmost to deprive the natives of their just right and giving the power and influence of the Municipality to those who rose against him.

The *Englishman* has at last realised the fact that underpaid and hard worked officers are not the best to make the Police administration of the country a success. Our contemporary truly enough remarks that though the Police are not so corrupt as they used to be, and though they cannot now practise such oppressions as formerly the fact remains that all criminal charges are investigated by a class of officers who are badly paid, and many of whom have risen from the ranks. "The ordinary pay of even a Sub-Inspector is only Rs. 30, and many investigations are held by Head Constables on Rs. 20 and under. These are the men who in the most serious charges have the power of arresting or not arresting, of reporting the case, true or false, and in many instances of making or marring it, as it may seem good to them. The charge of a Sub-Inspector is a thana, and within it there may be 100,000 souls. Whatever of an executive nature has to be done falls to his lot. If even lists of voters for local self-government have to be prepared, he is called upon to do it. Are the people adverse to vaccination? His aid will be invoked. He has to live a hard and active life, full, too, of responsibility, and even of some danger. If he does his duty, his enemies will harrass him with false charges. If he fails in his duty, or, what is the same, is thought to do so, he incurs the displeasure of his superiors. As a reward he receives a salary of Rs. 30; while he generally has to live in an out-of-the-way place where his family can hardly reside, and he is liable to constant transfers; and this liability, too, is not a fiction." This is a state of things in removing which a Government that makes money by administration of justice should raise no excuse whatsoever. The British Indian Association has for some time been engaged in making investigations on the subject and will shortly, we believe, make a representation to Government regarding the reform of Mafassil Police.

LOCAL

THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION, CALCUTTA.

The Thirty-Seventh Annual General Meeting of the British Indian Association was held at the Association Rooms, on Wednesday, the 24th April, at 4-30, P. M.

There were present :

The Hon'ble Raja Durga Churn Law, C. I. E. President, in the chair; Maharaja Sir Norendro Krishna Bahadoor, K. C. I. E.; Raja Rajendralala Mitra, L.L.D., C.I.E.; Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee, C.S.I.; Baboos Issur Chunder Mitter, Devaprasad Sarvadhikari, Benode Behary Mullick, Kumar Denendra Narain Roy, Babus Tin Kari Mookerjee, Sita Nath Roy, Nundo Lall Gossain, Kissory Lall Gossain, Nobin Chunder Boral, Sib Narain Mookerjee, Huri Mohun Bose, Rai Dwarka Nath Mookerjee Bahadoor, Babus Jogendra Chandra Ghosh, Roma Kanto Sen, Charoo Chunder Mullick, Rama Nath Ghose, Jagannath Khunnah, Mr. J. Ghosal, Baboo Kunjo Lall Banerjee, Raja Sasishekheresswar Roy, Mr. H. M. Rustomjee, Babus Shew Bux Bagla, Baikuntha Nath Basu, Chundi Lal Singh, Upendra Chandra Roy, of Narail, Kerone Chundra Roy, Surendra Nath Pal Chowduri, Jodu Lall Mullick, Damodur Das Burman, Annoda Prosad Biswas, and Rajkumar Sarvadhikari,—*Secretary*. 6

The proceedings were opened by the President calling upon the Secretary to read, on behalf of the Managing Committee, the following report on the working of the Association during the past year.

Committee's Report.

The Committee beg to submit the following report on the working of the Association during the year 1888.

The following subjects engaged the attention of the Committee during the first half of the past year :—

(1) The Calcutta Municipal Amalgamation Bill.
(2) Abolition of the Calcutta Mint.
(3) Discipline and Moral Training in Schools and Colleges.
(4) Court Fees.
(5) Note on the Government of India's Answer to Mr. S. Smith M. P. regarding the increase of Drunkenness in India.
(6) Imprisonment for Debt.
(7) Unit of Lineal Measure.
(8) Bengal Municipal Act of 1884.
(9) Limits of Calcutta.

Full details of the proceedings of the Committee in regard to these subjects have been given in the Committee's Report submitted in September last. This report will, therefore, dwell on the details of the work done since July last.

Before proceeding to notice the subjects taken up by the Committee during the 2nd Half year, they deem it necessary to observe that the Calcutta Municipal Bill received the assent of His Excellency the Viceroy on the 18th of September last and has become a law of the land.

Reconstruction of Benches of Honorary Magistrates.

On the 16th of May last the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal fowarded, with his letter No. 2168 I, a copy of a Resolution, dated that day, recorded by the Lieutenant-Governor on the Reconstitution of Benches of Honorary Magistrates. The Committee were requested to submit suggestions which they had to make on the subject, and to point out any alterations that would be considered necessary in the Resolution and Notification of Government dated the 6th May 1873, and in the revised rules framed by Government for guidance of Benches on the 25th March 1880 in order that they might be adapted to the proposed changes.

Your Committee in submitting their reply on the 6th of July last stated that whatever might have originally led Government to provide for this partial administration of criminal justice by honorary agency, the objects in view should be to provide for a sound administration of justice by men in whom the people have confidence, and to induce properly qualified gentlemen to take a larger share than heretofore in such honorary work. No considerations of economy or relief to the paid Magistrates should, therefore, be allowed to interfere with the trial or decision of criminal cases which might lead to a miscarriage of justice. This system has been in operation for about fifteen years, but it has failed in several places to induce men of education and position to render honorary service in the administration of criminal justice, while the inconvenience and drawbacks of the system mentioned in para 2 of the Resolution have not rendered it attractive and popular with the community at large. On the other hand, the honorary magistrates find that after they had travelled perhaps 15 or 20 miles and incurred expenses they have to await the convenience of paid magistrates and to try the most trivial cases involving fines varying from 1 anna to 1 Rupee. The sense of duty attaching to the performance of a responsible work was, therefore, altogether wanting. They stated, therefore, that in the sudder and Sub-Divisions where men of tried abilities and legal training are always available and the accused persons do often avail themselves of the aid of Vakils and Muktears, cases involving sentences of imprisonment might be advantageously tried by Benches of Honorary Magistrates, if the services of retired judicial and executive officers are utilized; but in outlying places cases affecting the liberty of the subject should not be entrusted

for trial to Honorary Magistrates. They further submitted that too much importance should not be attached to the consideration of "relief of the paid magistrates." This should be an object of secondary importance. The Magistrates should watch the purity of the administration of criminal justice and should not think lightly of the responsibility attaching to such work. The Magistrates might be greatly relieved and the public benefited if all municipal cases,—those under the conservancy provisions of the Police Act (Sec. 34 Act V of 1881), and those under the Hackney Carriage Act—were solely tried by Benches of Honorary Magistrates. The paid magistrates would not then have to devote much of their valuable time in unnecessary work, and every facility would be at the same time given to the speedy trial and decision of petty cases.

The Committee suggested that only men of leisure and education, or retired Government servants who have judicial experience, should be selected for appointments as Honorary Magistrates. The non-appointment of muktears and pleaders attending the subordinate courts to Benches at stations in which they practise their profession, has been very wisely enjoined in the Resolution. The administration of criminal justice should be entrusted to persons whose judgments are free from every suspicion of interested motives. Though the Committee find no objection to the proposal for the trial of cases by a single well-qualified Honorary Magistrate, too much care cannot be taken in selecting gentlemen for such an office. A landlord would be placed in a very awkward position if he were required to try single-handed cases concerning his ryots, however high might be his education and character for integrity and justice.

The reforms suggested in the Resolution differ in many material points from the Resolution and Notification of 6th May 1873. The directions therein contained should be, therefore, cancelled. Again, nothing in the draft rules and instructions issued on the 25th of March, 1880, militate against the proposed reforms. The details regarding the constitution of Benches and distribution of work are left by law to the discretion of the local Government and the District Magistrates. The proposed changes have not yet been made. The Committee are informed that the matter is still under the consideration of Government.

RAILWAY REFORM.

The Committee submitted, on the 15th of September last, their suggestions and observations on Railway reform for the consideration of the Railway Conference which sat at Simla. They stated that since the great mass of the people travelling in the lowest class contribute almost the whole revenue derived from Railway traffic, the comfort and convenience of such passengers should be properly looked after. The Government has recorded several times strong Resolutions calling upon the Railway authorities to provide for such comfort, but no attention has hitherto been given to them. The Committee suggested that overcrowding in the lower classes should be avoided and increased accommodation provided. It often happens that many third class passengers are left behind for want of room, and those who got into carriages were packed together with the greatest discomfort and danger to health. Considerable difficulty is experienced in getting tickets by the lower class passengers at times of *melas* and religious festivals; temporary additional booking offices should, therefore, be established during such periods. The lower class carriages are not always water-tight, and the arrangements for keeping out damp and cold during the rains and in cold weather, are very defective. Provisions should be made for remedying these evils. Attention was drawn to the necessity for supplying good drinking water at all stations and for refreshments at all larger stations. Waiting places at every Railway station should be provided both for male and female lower class passengers. Want of water-closets and lavatories is very much felt by the lower class passengers, and special arrangements should be made to give relief in this particular. Special accommodation for female passengers in all passenger trains should be provided. The plan adopted by the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway and the Rajputana Malwa Railway, reserving a whole third class carriage for women in every passenger train, should be resorted to. A limited number of female ticket-collectors might be employed in all Railways that the women might not suffer any rudeness from the ticket-checking staff. All carriages and compartments reserved for women should be provided with retiring accommodation. A uniform coaching rate should be enforced in all Railways. The Committee also submitted that the proposal to establish only two classes of passenger carriages on the Indian Railways as in England, would inflict a great hardship on the travelling public. A Bill embodying some of the suggestions made by the Railway Conference is now before the Viceregal Council.

STATUTORY CIVIL SERVICE.

Your Committee on the 2nd of October last submitted for the consideration of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council certain points in connection with the recommendations of the Public Service Commission regarding the Statutory Civilians in actual service.

They submitted that the Commission has proposed, in the place of the existing Covenanted and Uncovenanted branches of the Civil administrative agency, the constitution of the "Imperial" and "Provincial" services. But the proposed Imperial and Provincial services differ as much from one another as the old Covenanted service did from the Uncovenanted. The Commission has not given any adequate reasons for the proposal that the existing members of the Statutory Civil Service should be absorbed in the Provincial Civil Service. This would involve a loss of position, of status and of right, which the members have enjoyed since the establishment of the Service. It would be positive repudiation on the part of Government of a decade of its own acts, if the recommendations of the Commission are accepted. The general opinion is for the abolition of the Statutory Service; but nothing has been recorded regarding the persons who are already in the Service. Whatever might be the fate reserved for the Service in future, some consideration should be shown for the existing members, and the rights of individual officers should not be violated by arrangements of expediency giving retrospective effect to a newly created disability. The position of the Statutory Civilians at the time the Public Service Commission began its labours, was secure. Their appointments and promotions were in perfect identity with those of the covenanted civil service, clearly superior to and distinct from those of the uncovenanted service. The statutory rules framed by Lord Lytton provided for the employment of natives of India in Her Majesty's Covenanted Civil Service in India. The Resolution of the Home Department, dated 24th December 1879, confirmed them, and the inclusion of all civil servants, covenanted and statutory, in the same list re-affirmed the same. It is quite clear that the new interpretation of the Statute giving to officers appointed under it "specific posts" only, given to it fifteen years after its enactment and six years after appointments had actually begun to be made under it, had not struck either the authorities themselves or the law officers to whom the same was referred. It was discovered in 1885, and the Statutory Civilians were put in a separate list, but the decision of the Secretary of State thereupon was arrived at *ex parte* without any reference to the officers concerned. These officers would have protested against such a vital alteration in their status, and the candidates for employment after 1885 would not have consented to undergo an examination stiffer perhaps than that for the Covenanted Civil Service had they known the fact. The ruling of the Secretary of State in 1885 stating that the Statutory Civilians are not members of the Covenanted Civil Service altogether contradicts the well-understood rules laid down by the Secretary of State in 1879. Although the members of the Statutory Civil Service were thus ignorant of the change which the new interpretation made in their status, they did not find any thing in the conduct of the Government that might rouse their suspicion; their position remained untouched, and they enjoyed all the privileges reserved for members of the Covenanted Civil Service. They rose to the office of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges.

See Supplement.

THE VALUE OF ADVERTISING.

(*From the Kettering, England, Observer.*)

Sometimes, when we have been dilating upon the value of advertising to tradesmen, we have cited the examples which they have every week before their eyes in the various patent medicines advertised in this journal. We have often said that we know, from unsolicited testimony, that it pays to advertise with us; and we have further said that when a reader buys anything through this medium we should be pleased if that fact were notified by the vendor. In return, it is equally incumbent upon us, if business is done satisfactorily, to say so.

One day we met a young man whom we have known for several years, Mr. Herbert Ball, of Albert Street, Kettering, a bricklayer by trade, and he informed us that he had met with an accident, and was on the sick list. A brick or some heavy substance had fallen on his right foot, injuring it rather badly. It was at one time feared that lock-jaw would ensue. Happily, it did not; but the shock to the system was so great that it caused extreme nervous debility. We saw Mr. Ball in a reading-room when he could not hold a newspaper for five minutes together, and his whole system appeared to be completely unhinged. He looked like one who was fast becoming a physical wreck. The next time we met with him—about a fortnight afterwards—a great change had been wrought in his health and appearance. "What do you think?" said he. "I had seen and read so much in your paper about Warner's SAFE CURE, that I thought I would try it. So I purchased a bottle and a box of pills, at Mr. Moore's, the chemist, in Gold Street. The first dose took effect, and in three days I was like a new man. I had been under the doctors three weeks, and was not getting any better. My appetite had failed, and I was fast losing flesh; but now it's all right again. As a proof of that, I've just been eating a plateful of pickled onions. I'm all right now. I can eat almost anything. People laughed when I said I'd try the SAFE CURE, but I am thankful I did try it. If my testimony is worth anything, you can publish it, and at the same time express my gratitude to the discoverers of such wonderful medicine"

That is, as nearly as we can recollect it, the pith of the statements made to us by Mr. Ball, and as he is one of our townsmen, we thought we would publish this, because it serves to show—first, that advertising pays; second that patent medicines are of real value in some cases; and, third, that testimonials are not always mere concoctions of untruths, as some persons suppose.

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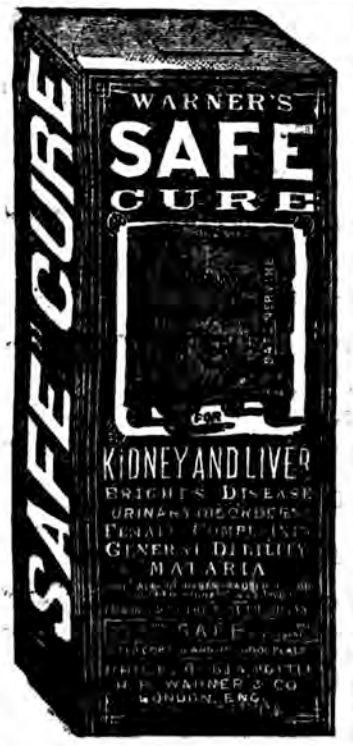

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BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. The Chairman to lay upon the table report for the quarter ending 31st. March 1889.

2. To consider the revised rules for conduct of business at General Meetings as passed by the Bye-laws and Rules Sub-Committee, at their Meeting on the 16th April.

3. To approve the proposed rules for the protection of wild birds and game.

4. Princes Mahomed Buckhtyar Shah to ask —(1) for a list of the ghee vendors prosecuted during the quarter January to March of this year, together with the result of the cases and the amount of fines imposed and (2) whether in the opinion of the Chairman and Health Officer the Food Inspectors do all that it is in their power to do to put down the adulteration of ghee, as it is very difficult to procure pure ghee.

5. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at the Meeting held on the 30th March 1889.

6. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at the Meeting held on the 13th April 1889.

7. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at the Meeting held on the 18th April 1889.

8. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Town Improvement Committee at the Meeting held on the 22nd April 1889.

9. Vital-statistics for the month of March 1889.

JOHN COWIE,
Secretary to the Corporation,

24th April 1889. 93.

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CALCUTTA, 27th MARCH. 1889. 84

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and every disorder depending on either functional derangement of the Liver, or obstruction of the hepatic or biliary ducts, such as Jaundice, Indigestion, Heartburn, Dyspepsia, Pain in the right side and shoulder Habitual Costiveness, Some forms of Diarrhœa, Offensive Breath Blotch's on the skin, oppression after meals, depression of Spirits, Nervous and general Debility, restlessness ; wasting &c., &c., have their appropriate remedy in

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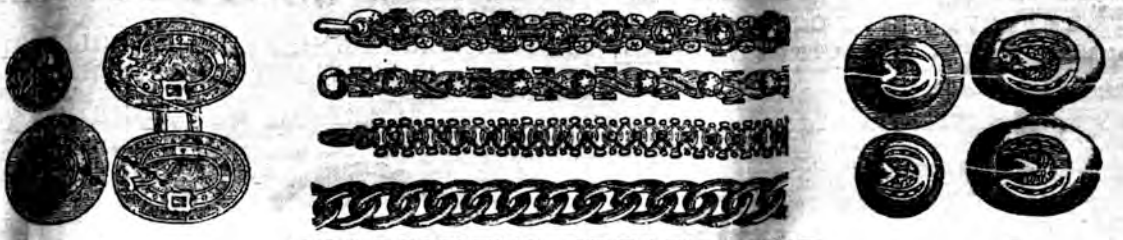

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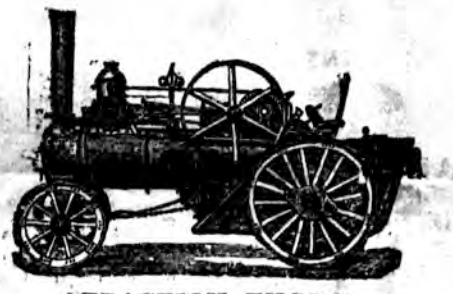

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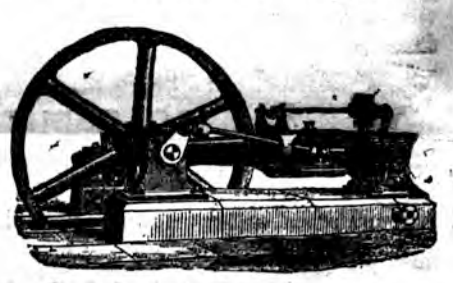

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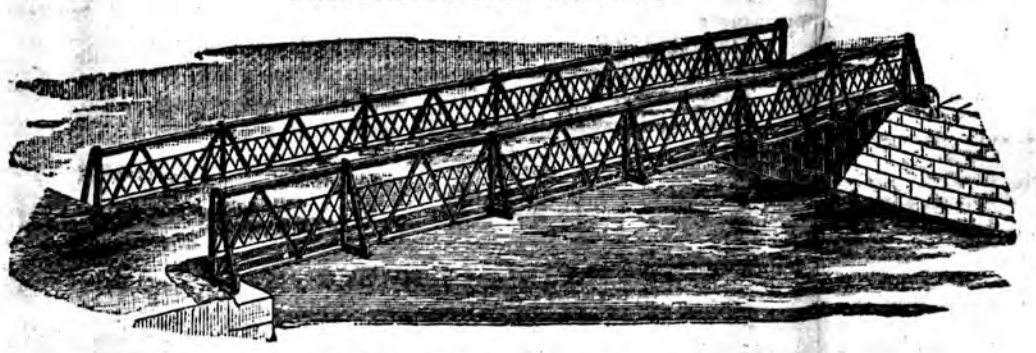

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LOCAL.

THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION CALCUTTA.

Thirty-Seventh Annual General Meeting of the British Indian Association was held at the Association Rooms, on Wednesday, the 24th April. at 4-30 P. M.

See Page 199.

The statutory rules of 1879, definitely and emphatically made the Statutory service a part and parcel of the entire Civil Service. When Lord Lytton in the draft rules framed by him under the statute made certain reservations with regard to the appointments of the statutory civilians to the higher executive appointments, the Secretary of State vetoed the provisions thus placing the two Services on a perfectly equal footing. The recommendation of the Commission for the proposed degradation of the statutory civilians from an imperial to a provincial status on the alleged ground of their general inefficiency is far too sweeping an assertion. In Bengal men of acknowledged merit and qualification were appointed and did honor to the Service. Regarding other Presidencies, if Government have any doubt respecting this matter, it can exercise its statutory powers of weeding out inefficient members from the Service. It would, therefore, be unfair to punish the deserving and competent members for the shortcomings of those who have not attained a high standard of merit.

The Secretary to the Government of India, in reply to the above, informed your Committee that the Government of India have in their despatch to the Secretary of State on the Report of the Public Service Commission, safeguarded the claims of the statutory Civilians.

AMENDMENT OF THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT.

The Commissioner of the Presidency Division, with his letter No. 90L., dated 17th October last requested your Association to submit their views regarding the propriety of retaining sections 12 to 15 of theBengal TenancyAct, with reference to the remarks in theGovernment Resolution on the Board's Land Revenue Administration Report for 1887-88. Your Committee replied on the 7th November last. These sections, they submitted, had inspired the ryots with false hopes. They believe that an *ex parte* registration of the transfers of their tenures or holdings and the mere deposit of the landlord's fee in the Registry Office would raise a legal presumption against the landlord, and help to render such holdings permanent and free from liability to enhancement of rent. A large number of fictitious transfers have been effected and registered, the transferees being in several cases sons or other near relations of the tenure-holders or ryots. This explains the fact of the great and sudden increase in the sales of tenures and holdings which has taken place within the last two years.

The landholders have failed to appreciate the benefit of the provisions in question. They apprehended that the acceptance of the fee and the record of the transfers of a tenure as provided in Section 18, would be a recognition of the permanent character of the tenure, there being no authoritative ruling on the contrary; and they had, therefore, in a majority of cases, refused to recognise the transfer and accept the fee. The provisions in question have thus caused much mischief. Transfers and purchases have been made, but the validity of each of these transfers remains uncertain till adjudicated upon by [illegible]ice. The mischief unless put a [illegible]ill go on increasing, and the [illegible] dispose [illegible]ortion of the [illegible]most.

[illegible]herefore, that in [illegible]of the Bengal [illegible]ed, and that [illegible] landlords

[illegible] 23rd of

privations to which Hindus are subjected on board ships. Trade and Commerce, the Committee believed, would be developed to a considerable extent if Orissa, the Central Provinces and Bombay were connected together. This line would be very profitable both as regards goods and passenger traffic. The province of Orissa is often threatened with scarcity, and the construction of this branch line would not only serve as a relief work, but also safeguard against recurrence of such severe calamities. They enclosed a copy of a letter which your Committee submitted to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on the 17th of June 1887, regarding the economic advantages of the proposed line of Railway. On the 30th of November last, the Agent and the Chief Engineer of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway replied in his letter No. 10,051, that a copy of your Committee's letter has been forwarded by him to the Board of Directors for their early consideration.

THE MERCHANDISE MARKS BILL.

The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal forwarded, with his No. 1960, a copy of letter, No. 1927, dated 24th December 1888, from the Government of India, together with copy of a Bill to amend the law relating to fraudulent marks on merchandise, and requested your Committee to express their opinion on the provisions of the Bill. In reply to the above your Committee submitted their opinion on the 22nd of December last. They stated that the principle of the Bill was sound, and legislation was urgently required in the interests of legitimate trade. The provisions of the Bill, they said, would safeguard the rights of all classes of the mercantile community and afford adequate protection to honest traders and innocent consumers.

The penal sections, they submitted, were rather severe. Punishment by imprisonment in dealing with such offences is not suited to the circumstances of the country. Your Committee, therefore, suggested that the penal provisions should be modified, and fine and forfeiture of goods be substituted for imprisonment.

The Committee also suggested that some provisions should be made regarding settlement of disputed cases where questions of a technical nature were at issue. Opinion of experts should be obtained in all such cases to avoid harrassment to importers and at the same time to guard against injury to the interests of consumers.

Your Committee further suggested that to avoid all misapprehension and misconstruction definite rules for the successful working of the law should be framed and embodied in the Bill. The Bill embodying some of the suggestions made by your Committee has passed through the Supreme Council, and has become the law of the land.

THE FOURTH NATIONAL CONGRESS.

The Calcutta Standing Committee of the Congress requested your Committee to elect delegates for the Congress which was to be held at Allahabad in December last, and invited suggestions regarding some 'Tentative Rules' and other matters relating to Congresses. The Committee made their suggestions, and sent the following gentlemen as delegates of the Association to the Congress held at Allahabad :

1. Babu Jogendra Chandra Ghosh,
2. „ Mahesh Chandra Chaudhuri,
3. „ Saligram Singh,
4. „ Nobinchandra Boral,
5. Mr. J. Ghosal,
6. Babu Parvatisankar Roy Chaudhuri,
7. „ Rajkumar Sarvadhikari,

Your delegates were instructed to move at the Congress a Resolution to the effect that the members of each Congress were responsible solely for the resolutions passed thereat and were in [illegible]o way responsible for any publication that had [illegible]or might be issued by any local Standing [illegible]tees or by individual supporters of the [illegible]ovement. Your delegates after their [illegible]ahabad reported to the Committee [illegible] to the above effect was placed [illegible]mittee, but that it was not approved of by them. The contemplated resolution, therefore, could not be brought forward at the Congress.

SUBJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

The following subjects are still under the consideration of the Committee :

(1.) Reform of the Mafassil Police,

(2.) Parallel Lines of Promotion in the Civil Service in connection with the Administration of Civil Justice.

(3.) Civil Court Ameens.

MEMBER WITHDRAWN

Babu Nuffer Chunder Pal Chowdhury of Nuddea has withdrawn his name from the list of Members.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen were elected Honorary Members of the Association in September last.

Mr. Dadabbai Nowroji

Rao Saheb Vishwanath Narayan Mandlick.

NEW ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen huve been elected by the Committee Members of the Association subject to the usual confirmation under Rule X.

From January to June, 1888.

1. Kumar Dowlut Chunder Roy, of Cossipore.
2. Babu Okhil Chunder Roy, Zemindar, Narail.
3. „ Troylackyanath Biswas, Calcutta.
4. „ Dipendranath Tagore, Calcutta.
5. Mr. A. Chowdhury, Barrister-at-Law, Calcutta
6. Babu Kanye Lall Khan, Calcutta.

From July to December, 1888.

7. Babu Kirun Chunder Roy, Narail.
8. „ Devaprasad Sarvadhikari, Calcutta.
9. „ Grish Chunder Roy, Pleader, Pubna.
10. Raja Jogendra Deb Bahadur of Bodh, Orissa.
11. Babu Jogendra Kissore Roy Chowdhury, Mymensing.
12. „ Sibnarain Mukerjee, Utterpara.
13. Kumar Rameswar Malia, Howrah.
14. Lala Bansigopal Nande, Burdwan.
15. Rani Manmohini Devi Puttia.

From January to April, 1889.

16. Babu Sheo Bux Bagla, Calcutta.
17. „ Chunder Kumar Banerjee, Sibpore.
18. „ Rajkumar Roy, Narail.
19. Syed Asghur Reza Khan Bahadur, Purnia.
20. Babu Mohini Mohun Das, Dacca,
21. Raja Sashishekhareswar Roy, Tahirpore,
22. The Hon'ble Rash Behari Ghosh, Calcutta,
23. Babu Bhupendra Chandra Roy, Narail,

OBITUARY.

The Committee deeply regret to announce the loss which the Association has sustained by the death of the following members :

Babu Joykissen Mukerji of Utterpara.

Raja Syamanund Dey of Balasore.

At the last half-yearly meeting, a Resolution was adopted by the Association expressive of its sense of the severe loss sustained by the demise of Babu Joykissen Mukerji, and your Committee has the satisfaction to invite the attention of the Association to the portrait which has been hung in your Hall and which will always recall to you and your successors the services rendered by him to the Association. The portrait has found a fitting place among the Memorials of those great men whose names stand foremost in the annals of the Association.

Raja Syamanand Dey was well known as a charitable and benevolent person who always greatly sympathised with his people, and particularly distinguished himself by his numerous charities.

Accounts.

The usual accounts for the year are herewith submitted for your consideration :

Abstract Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Association for 1887.

Balance in the Bank of Bengal	4986	11					By Establishment			5872	0	0							
In hand	93	7					„ House Taxes and Repairs			830	9	6							
							„ Printing charges			480	6	0							
Subscription			5079	3	7		„ Books and Newspapers			1122	9	9							
House Rent and Taxes			6201	0	0		„ Pension			120	0	0							
Interest on Government Securities			3073	12	0		„ Hurrish Library			173	4	0							
							„ Deposit Account			745	15	6							
Deposit Account			837	9	8		„ Contingencies			1666	3	8							
			811	0	0														
Total Rs.			16002	9	3		Balance									11,000	0	5	
																5,002	8	10	
							Total Rs.									16,002	9	3	
Government Securities along with other Securities belonging to the Association aggregating Rs. 23,000 are now deposited with the Bank of Bengal as per Memo No. 72 dated 12th February 1885.						21,500	Cash in the Bank of Bengal									Rs.	4885-0-4		
						1,500	In hand	...	...							„	117-8-6		
British Indian Association	...	...															5002-8-10		
Hurrish Memorial	...	...																	
		Rs.				23,000													

Out of the cash balance in the Bank of Bengal Rs. 2000 was invested in 4 per cent Government securities in March last.

The President (the Hon'ble Raja Durga Churn Law) in reviewing the Report said :—

Maharajas and gentlemen,—You will have noticed from the report just read by our Secretary, the various questions which have been engaging the attention of your Committee during the past year. There is one subject still under consideration of the Legislature, and that a most important one, and upon this we have made a representation as mentioned in the report. I am speaking of the Railway Bill. As a vast amount of the comfort and convenience of the third-class passengers will depend upon the provisions in this Bill, these people are anxiously looking forward with a hope that their just expectations may not be disappointed, and that adequate remedial provisions may be adopted to put a stop to the grievances under which they have been partially suffering from a long time past. I am sure the question will receive from the present head of the Government and the railway authorities that consideration which it unquestionably deserves. I trust they will regard it from an Indian point of view. The circumstances of this country are so very different from those of Europe and America that there can be no comparison between them. What may be perfectly suitable in the latter countries oftentimes prove quite the reverse here. I now turn to another subject, a highly important one to the people of India. I believe you have all carefully read the speeches of the hon'ble members of the Viceroy's Council which met on the 29th ultimo bearing on the Financial Statement submitted by. Sir David Barbour. His Excellency the Viceroy in his clear and able speech made amongst other things a statement announcing that in future years Budget Statements will be regularly submitted whether there be taxation or no taxation. This will afford to the Council an opportunity of considering the financial proposals of Government. The advantage of such a course is quite obvious. Both the Government and the country will be greatly benefited by it. Free discussion always tends as you all know to elucidate points on which there may be difference of opinion. Your Committee made a representation on the subject, and you will all be glad that the Government is willing to make the concession they sought for. His Excellency the Viceroy also announced that the Government is willing to introduce another important reform. There is a proposal for giving under proper safeguards to members of the Imperial Council the right of addressing questions to Government upon matters of public interest. This right of interpellation was also prayed for by your Committee, and I am very glad that there is every likelihood of this prayer being granted. Of course it will be necessary to limit this right in such a way that it may not prove injurious to public interest, but I have no hesitation in saying that properly safeguarded it will be of the greatest public utility. As regards the financial position of the country, it is a matter of great satisfaction that his Excellency the Viceroy fully recognises the urgent necessity of exercising watchfulness over public expenditure. When the head of the Government displays such anxiety to see economy consistent of course with efficiency practised in all departments of State, and when his Councillors also show an earnest desire to loyally support his views, the assurance given by His Excellency becomes doubly assured, and under such circumstances I am bound to say there is every reason to hope that under the vigilant eye of our able Finance Minister we may yet have a fair prospect before us. (Applause.)

The President then invited members present to express their views upon the Report and the working of the Association.

Kumar Dinendra Narayan Roy said :—Gentlemen, I am glad to find that the Committee are watching the Railway Bill. While this subject is for consideration before the Legislature, I beg to add over and above the suggestions made by our Committee that some provision ought to be made for waiting rooms in some of the principal stations for 3rd class passengers and also separately for females. At present I know and have seen personally in my sojourn to the N. W. Provinces up to Delhi and Bombay and several other places, that 3rd class passengers with females and little children are obliged to stay for hours in open *Maidan* outside the station ; they are refused even admission to the the platform of the station when it is raining hard. As regards the Merchindise Marks Bill, I am sorry to differ entirely from the recommendation made to the Legislature by our Committee for abolishing altogether the penal clause regarding rigorous imprisonment and rest satisfied with fine only. I have known cases of counterfeiting trade marks where two months, rigorous imprisonment and heavy fine have not put a stop to the offence, and I do not find any reason how our Committee were justified to make such a suggestion and I repeat I differ froms uch opinion entirely.

The President pointed out with reference to the last remark that it was impossible to make people honest by an Act of Parliament. The Bill had already been passed and there was nothing more to be said about it.

Babu Jogendra Chandra Ghosh said :—Gentlemen,—The point raised is one in which I may be permitted to say a word or two even after what has fallen from the chair. I happened to have had a share in settling the draft of the letter alluded to and I distinctly recollect the discussion in the Committee regarding the penal provision in the Merchandise Marks Bill. The Bill, it will be remembered, was called for by fraudulent practices of merchants and manufacturers in foreign countries. But of course similar conduct occurs among our own countrymen too. And it was urged by a member who was also connected with the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce that the penal provisions in the Bill would seriously affect the trade of the country. No sympathy was felt for any miscreant, whether Indian or other. But Indian traders, I am afraid, are in danger of being sinned against on occasions. Their ignorance of the English and other European languages and also their incapacity to understand the full significance of trade mark[illegible] are, I believe, serious difficulties of a kind, [illegible] cordingly to meet all objections the praye[illegible] Association was framed in the manne[illegible] in the Report. The Bill has since p[illegible] and I think we should now re[illegible] the wisdom of the legisl[illegible] We can appreciate in due measure the reason of strong penal checks as desired by my friend opposite. But we have to watch none the less how the provisions of the Act eventually affect the trade of the country.

Baboo Shew Bux Bagla proposed, and Rai Dwarka Nath Mookerjee Bahadoor seconded, that the report be received and adopted and the accounts passed as correct.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Baboo Benode Behary Mullick proposed, and Baboo Romakanto Sen seconded, that the election by the Committee provisionally of the gentlemen, mentioned in the Report, as members of the Association be confirmed.

The resolution on being put to the meeting was carried *nem con.*

Baboo Surendranath Pal Chowdhuri proposed, and Baboo Upendra Chunder Roy seconded, that the following gentlemen be elected office-bearers for the current year :—

Raja Rajendralala Mitra, LLD., C.I.E., *President*; the Hon'ble Raja Doorga Churn Law, C.I.E, His Highness the Maharaja of Dumraon, K.C.I.E., Babu Jodulal Mullick, Kumar Surut Chander Singh, *Vice-Presidents*; His Highness Maharaja Sir Luchmaneswar Sing Bahadoor K.C. .E., of Durbhunga, Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore Bahadur K.C.S.I, Maharaja Sir Narendro Krishna Bahadoor, K.C.I.E., Prince Feroke Shah, Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee, C.I.E., Raja Purna Chundra Singh, Raja Baikantha Nath Dey, Baboo Jogendra Chandra Ghose, Mr. H. M. Rustomjee, Baboo Denonath Mullick, Rai Jaiperkash Lall Bahadoor, Kumar Debendro Mullick, Bahadoor, Babus Shyam Charan Law, Kalinath Mitter, Saligram Singh, Kunjolal Bannerjee, Suradindra Mohun Tagore, Bejoy Kissen Mookerjee, Kissorylal Gossain, Sita Nath Roy, Kumar Denendra Narain Roy, Babus Dwarkanath Dutt Damodur Das Burman, Gonesh Chunder Chunder, Chandilal Singh, Jugannath Khunnah, Mr. J. Ghosal, Babus Issur Chunder Mitter, Kaliprosonno Ghose, Charoo Chunder Mullick, Hari Mohun Bose, Moulvie Fuzul-ul-Rubbi, Babus Nobin Chandra Boral, Nilumber Mookerjee, and Sib Narain Mookerjee, *members of the Committee.*

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Babu Tinkari Mookerjee proposed, and Babu Ramanath Ghose seconded, that a vote of thanks be passed to the retiring office-bearers and members of the Committee for their services during the past year.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The President said he had to return his cordial thanks as well for himself as for the Committee for the vote of thanks passed to them for their humble services during the past year. The President then vacated the chair for Raja Rajendralala Mitra.

Raja Rajendralala Mitra, on taking the chair, said :—Gentlemen, before I assume the chair which has been so kindly placed at my disposal, I wish to return to you my most cordial thanks for the honor you have done me. For the third time you have thought my services worthy of recognition, and no man in India can be so insensible as not to feel deeply the honor which has been conferred on me by this [illegible] tant body. But I regret I cann[illegible] you upon your choice. All along [illegible] respects or other, I have [illegible] ill-health of more [illegible] see me a mere [illegible] Even my voice [illegible] so naturally [illegible] done. Th[illegible] that I sha[illegible] last day o[illegible] that is [illegible] f[illegible]

who will go so far as to lead you in your work. It is I rather that will look upon you for assistance in carrying on your duties and in serving the country. Really I am, I think, nothing better than a figurehead—the figurehead of a ship—which is an ornament merely. I am sorry that in my present condition I cannot even be looked upon as ornamental in your society. Well, I shall try, as I have already said, to do my best to discharge my duties as well as I can. It is said in that noble, national epic, the Ramayana, that even the great hero of Oudh Ram- [redacted] is service the aid of squirrels who rende[redacted] him assistance in bridging the sea to Ceylon. I am content to serve even as the squirrels did. I only hope that such as my service may be you will accept it for what is intended, not for its worth.

I have already adverted to your being able to conduct your business very effectually. But you have a singular fact before you. The late Viceroy told a different story. The late Viceroy thought that you were mere children; and that your ambition is that of Phæton which will hurl you to perdition! It is not for me to criticise the sayings of a great statesman of the standing of Lord Dufferin, but this much I may say that between his professions at a convivial gathering and his actions in the Council Chamber, the diversity was vital. Though he believed you to be mere Phætons who could not be entrusted with any responsibility, in the Council Chamber he thought fit to record a despatch in which he recommended that a number of your countrymen—aye, some of the Phætons—should be elected or appointed to the Councils of the Empire. How he could justify recommending the appointment of these Phætons to the councils of the Empire, I cannot conceive. You must pardon me if I feel disposed to think that, the only way he could account for the differences existing between the two opinions, was that the one was an after dinner speech, made at a convivial gathering, which should never have been interpreted too seriously; while the other written within the four walls of the Council Chamber, was a correct expression of Lord Dufferin's views. You are all aware that his successor fully sympathises with you, and proposes to grant you the most important concessions of electing members to the Council. Whether he will do so during his tenure of office or not I cannot say; but certain it is he will give you the other blessing of interpellation in the Council Chamber, and that of itself would be a great gain. Anyhow this much is certain that the opportunity of interpellation you have been seeking for the past thirty-seven years, has now come near at hand.

It was in the year 1853 that the first petition you prepared for the House of Commons had for its first section the defects of our Legislative Councils here. Most of you are no doubt aware that in those days legislation was carried on with closed doors by the Executive Council, and no reporters were allowed admittance. Your petition was so far successful in 1853 that in 1856 you had a law passed which authorised the Government to appoint others than the members of the Services as members of Council, and the doors of the Legislative Council were thrown open so far as to admit reporters.

From closed doors to an open chamber was a great gain; not that more was not wanted, but the first instalment was very good. In 1859-60 you again addressed the House of Commons about a revision in your Council, and in 1861 you went up again complaining of the Council and suggesting with great truth that certain members of the Council should be elected by the people—not by the people—but by certain representative societies and associations of the people. In 1868 you had another petition. In that you broached the creation of a consultative Council Chamber,—that all projects of law should be initiated by that lower chamber, of which the members would be some of the people of this country, elected by the people, and that the upper chamber should be the revising regulator which could either adopt or reject the recommendations of the counsultative chamber, and that the Council of the Governor-General should do nothing without first consulting the consultative council. Other petitions then followed. All through 1872 to 1880 and latterly, your representatives have been foremost in mooting the subject of reform in the legislatures in the several National Congresses. It is therefore not the National Congress that broached the subject, but it was the British Indian Association, thirty-seven years ago, which first brought up it, and full credit should be given to tha[redacted]ssociation for this. Of course, you are not i[redacted] position now to say what lies in the womb of the future, but this much is certain that your representations have given such weight to the National Congresses that they have succeeded in securing the co-operation of a large number of men in India and Europe in their favour. You will not, therefore, be disheartened by what has transpired at the St. Andrews dinner. I should like to urge that you should redouble your exertions now that the day of success is within a measurable distance. It will depend entirely upon you whether you will succeed or not in your further moves towards a reformed legislative council. Mind you, I who have a very few days before me to live, warn you that to be disheartened is to give up the campaign, and to give up the campaign would be a proof that you do not deserve to succeed. Fight; to the last of your resources fight, and when I use the word I mean fight constitutionally, loyally and faithfully with the single object of improving the empire of Her benign Majesty the Queen under whom we live, and that is the only way by which you can secure success. Bear in mind another thing and that is to be prudent and cautious. Never use anything in your arguments or methods which may be construed into disloyalty, or opposition to the interests of the Government. The interests of Government as a Government is entirely for your benefit. The interests of certain individuals in that Government who delight in finding fault with you may be quite a different matter, but that is a dangerous subject to touch upon, and I shall say nothing about it.

The next subject to which I shall draw your attention and to which you have all along devoted attention, is the Civil Service. In your petition of 1853 to which I have referred, the constitution of the Civil Service was prominently noted, and notwithstanding all the improvements which have been made in it they have proved inadequate, and it will be for you to exert your utmost to secure something worthy of your efforts. As at present advised I do not think the report of the Public Service Commission affords at all a satisfactory solution of the problem you have before you. But I am afraid I am tiring you. What with my whining and broken voice and my whisperings I do not think I shall be justified in taking up more of your time, but I hope and trust that you will not in a moment forget the great, the important, the paramount subject of a reform in our Legislatures. That is at the base of all improvements in this country. Without it nothing can be done that will be worth anything; and I trust that you and your successors will never play, never slumber, never lose a moment in exerting yourselves for your good. I return you once again my thanks for the honor you have done me. (*Loud applause.*)

Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur then addressed the meeting. He said:—Gentlemen,—I beg to draw earnestly the attention of the authorities entrusted with the administration of the affairs of the province to the very sensible communications of Mr. A. Smith, the good Commissioner of the Presidency Division, dated the 17th October last, in reference to certain obnoxious provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act, by which the ryots are under the impression that by applying and paying fees in the Collectorate they can have their temporary titles of tenures registered as permanent ones. Under this conviction they have made since the passing of this Act numerous applications and deposited the necessary sums upon which the collectors have called on the zemindars to transfer such holdings according to the ryot's statement. No doubt it was the intention of the Legislature to dispose of this important question in a summary way with the view of securing to the ryots the free enjoyment of their possessions. On the other hand the zemindars could not reasonably comply with their demands. They hold that their just rights over their tenants should not be tampered with when their views do not coincide with those of their tenants. Such questions must invariably be determined in a court of law. The ryots thus lose the money deposited by them without gaining their ends. The Commissioner, I dare say, has pointed out to Government the grievances of the ryots in paying the fees and not obtaining the registration of their holdings on their own terms, which they erroneously believe the Act provides them with, without intending to test their merits in a competent court of law. Under these circumstances, sections 12 to 15 of the Bengal Tenancy Act should be at once repealed.

Babu Jadu Lal Mullick agreed with the the advice of the President to be loyal, but was of opinion that such an advice was hardly needed as natives were constitutionally loyal. Whatever charge, he thought, may be brought against Bengalis, the charge of disloyalty could not be brought to their door. But he admitted that they were garrulous, and said what they thought, and if that was a fault, no one could be more condemned than the English nation. He thought that in justice to the Congress, it must be said that it had brought matters to notice more prominently in England, and extorted some decision one way or the other.

Babu Surendra Nath Pal Chowdhuri said:—Gentlemen,—I rise to observe that the Committee of the British Indian Association are to be congratulated upon their exertions in moving his Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal to introduce a Bill into the Bengal Council for the protection of the rights in fishing in private fisheries. We are all aware as to what extent the interests of the zemindars have been at stake as far as their rights in fisheries were concerned. It was the general impression that the taking of fish from julkur without the consent of the zemindar was tantamount to theft, and the practice was that zemindars used to let out their julkurs at annual rents. Hitherto these arrangements were sufficient safeguards of the julkur rights, from which the Government derives a considerable income. But the recent decisions of the courts placed this sort of property in great jeopardy. The result is that the mass of the people now consider that violation of julkur rights is not a criminal offence. The poorest class now crowd together and rob fish from julkur. I belong to Nuddea, and I have been informed by many of my brother zemindars that they are suffering very much in this matter. To this I bear my personal testimony. I have been robbed of two of my julkurs yielding a *jumma* of Rs. 50 per annum. Accordingly, in this state of things the Bill is most opportune. But the Bill, as it is, in spite of the consideration it has received in the Select Committee, is defective in certain particulars. It imposes on landholders a burden to prove right of property which they will generally be unable to do. I venture to think that the Bill requires further revision, and that after such revision, the sooner the Bill is passed and protection given to the zemindars, the better. (Applause).

Babu Shew Bux Bagla, said:—Mr. President, Maharajas, Rajas, and gentlemen,—Before we part to day, I would beg leave to speak a few words on the subject of income-tax and its results on the progress of commerce The subject has already been fully discussed by men of eminence and rank, and any further attempt to argue on its principles will, I believe, be mere repetitions of the old sayings and undue waste of your precious time. I need not, therefore, attempt to point out the amount of mischief it has done to our commerce, for you all know very well that in these hard days when the value of the money has been greatly deteriorated by the present rate of exchange, one can hardly make a profit which will half cover the amount paid for the Income-tax. Instances have been known where people have been compelled to wind up their business and retire to their villages, discouraged and disappointed by the heavy taxation. The tax itself is not so oppressive as the mode in which it is levied by the collector. The veracity of respectable gentlemen has been in some cases questioned by the collector, and undue hardship has been shown in realising

the tax. Gentlemen, if the object of this Association as I understand it, is to look after the interests of the people and represent their grievances to the Government, why should we keep ourselves unmindful of this particular item of grievance, which, I am afraid, if not early brought to the notice of Government will do immense evil to the commercial world. I do not mean to say, gentlemen, that we should request the Government to relinquish its best source of income for the satisfaction of its people; but all that I beg to impress upon your mind is to suggest such means as you think would best compensate the loss by the imposition of some other taxes than the income-tax. A mere nominal duty on piece goods or other articles of commodity will doubtless realise the amount without affecting the commerce and finance of the country. (Applause).

The Hon'ble Rajah Peary Mohun Mookerjee said:—Before we part I wish to say a few words about the Court Fees. Last year we made a representation to the High Court on the subject of court fees and copying fees. We represented that the fees levied from suitors in suits of small values in rent suits were exorbitantly heavy. Nothing has come of our representations, and I think we should move the Government of India on the subject. It is a general complaint at least in the mafassil that a zemindar must spend three or four times the amount of arrears of rent due from a ryot before he can expect the realisation of his dues, and it must be a matter of no less serious concern to the ryots themselves when the amount of the inevitable costs he must pay in a simple rent-suit is several times the amount of rent. He has in any cases to spend three or four times the amount of the claim originally preferred. I hold in my hand a tabular statement which I have prepared from papers in my own records, which shows that in the large majority of cases the amounts actually realised in execution of decrees were from 3 to 8 and 10 times in excess of the claims originally preferred. In one case the amount of arrears of rent was Rs. 12-10, and the amount which the ryot had ultimately to pay was Rs. 102-6; in another case the amount was Re. 1 and 19 gandas and the ryot had to pay Rs. 9-12; in another case it was Re. 1-11, and the ryot had to pay Rs. 13-4; in another it was Rs. 6-7 and the amount recovered was Rs. 21-11. So you must see at once that although the Legislature has tried to protect the ryots against a vast number of ideal grievances, this is a real grievance which urgently called for redress. I think we should do our best to remedy the state of things which I think is a disgrace to the administration of justice in this country. There is a large surplus revenue from Court fees, if you do not take all the Presidencies together, as has been shown by my friend Babu Mohinimohun Roy, in his article in the *Calcutta Review*. The fact is clear that if you take Bengal alone, and I think we have a right to consider the finance of Bengal apart from other provinces, you will find a very large surplus is available for the purposes of reducing the court fees and copying fees.

There is another matter which I think I ought to press upon your attention and that is that when the Bengal Tenancy Act was passed, a distinct promise was made that adequate provision would be made for the speedy trial of rent suits. Now it is a crying complaint in the mofussil that there is considerable delay in the trial of these suits. You can very well conceive the amount of inconvenience and hardship which a Zemindar is subjected to in recovering his rent by a suit which involves great delay, and if he fails to pay he is sold out under the Sunset law, whilst the poor ryot himself undergoes no end of harrasment, trouble or inconvenience by having to attend the courts at different times after different intervals for months together before his suit is tried and decided. So that in the interests both of the landholder and ryot, and seeing that Bengal has a large surplus at its disposal in the matter of Judicial revenue, I think we should have an adequate number of Munsiffs, for the trial of rent suits. (*applause.*)

Raja Sasishekhareswar Roy, said:—

Gentlemen;—I wish to draw your attennion to a matter which is of great importance. I am not a good speaker—or rather I should say I am not a speaker at all. My knowledge of English is so imperfect that, I am afraid my taking of the case might do rather harm than any good to it. But what I wish to bring to your notice is that though a very important matterstill it is of such a simple nature that it is not necessary to make a long speech, nor it is necessary to bring forth strong arguments, to convince you that the Association should take this matter into its immediate consideration. You know, gentlemen, that there was an institution for the education of the minors under the Court of Wards. It has been abolished since last six or seven years. There is no other institution of the kind in this province for the education of the sons of Zemindars. Now-a-days the wards are placed at the head quarter town of their own district under the supervision of an ordinary tutor. As far as I have been able to learn from personal enquiry and other trustworthy sources I can assure you, gentlemen, that the progress which the wards as a class, are now making is anything but satisfactory. The sons of Zemindars as a rule get very little of that education which their peculiar circumstances require. In addition to the ordinary school education it is absolutely necessary that they should be trained in a manner by which they can afterwards make their life useful to society. In the present state of our society unless the Zemindar class be strengthened by good education they will not be able to keep their standing, and in that case they will surely sooner or later, fall into the back ground. To save the Zemindar class from utter ruin it is absolutely necessary that great attention should be paid to the education and good training of the sons of Zemindars. Our Chairman has just now said that we should try to get the Legislative Council reformed. I beg to add that we should also try to bring up such persons who would prove useful in the Council Chamber. Unless we get our sons well educated and unless we get a large number of the most able men among our community to take seats in the Council rooms whatever reform we get will practically do very little good to our country. Unless we can get good men, election or selection of members of the Council will be almost the same thing to us. I do not wish to take more of your time. I only most earnestly invite your attention to the important matter I have laid before you, and beg you to consider what we should do for the education and training of the sons of the Zemindars of our country.

Babu Charu Chunder Mullick said:—Gentlemen,—I think the Committee of the Association ought to consider the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction for the abolition of the Hindu School—an institution which has existed from the beginning of the introduction of English education into this country. I think we ought strongly to protest against such a recommendation. I doubt whether the Government have the power to abolish the institution. If the Government want a technical College let them have it by all means. But why to effect this object an institution should be abolished which is the only one of its kind? I hope the Committee will take early steps to make a proper representation on the subject. Sir Alfred Croft's proposal has already done mischief. It has reduced the number of students on the rolls, and affected the finances of the school.

Raja Rajendralala Mitra said:—I am sure you will all agree with me that we are much indebted to the several gentlemen who have addressed us on the several matters of importance. It is not my wish to take [illegible] beyond referring to one or two [illegible] them. [illegible] the matters will be laid before your Committee, and I dare say they will do all that is necessary in the matter.

With regard to the Fisheries Bill which has been referred to, it is a question on which unfortunately I differ from your Committee. I believe that no law in England has done greater harm than the Game Laws, and Fisheries law is one of the Game laws of the land; and there is an attempt in this country to introduce a game law too amongst us. You will all remember that between his speech in the Council Chamber and in his speech in the Court of the highest appellate jurisdiction, Sir Charles Paul differed very greatly; he was obliged to blow hot and cold from the same mouth in defending his clients in Court and his clients in the Council Chamber. It [illegible] is, however, a very ticklish subject to deal with, and I believe that the only justification which the Government has at all in interfering in the matter is its own action in making contracts with the zemindars with reference to julkar. Had it not bound itself by the terms of the Permanent Settlement which refers to the julkar the clearest evidence on the face of the thing would be against any legislation at all. But julkar rules cannot be done away with, and the Government finds that between julkar rules on the one hand, and justice on the other, it is in a dillemma, and as it is a question of finance, and the zemindar would probably take the matter into a Court of justice it has cut the gordian knot by giving a sort of law which is neither one thing nor the other. I think that the project should be accepted rather than have constant litigation in the matter.

The Income-tax is another subject mooted; but at this late hour I shall not make a long speech on it. My friend who alluded to it may be perfectly right about the rigours of the tax, but a great number of men on the other side think that the Income-tax is the fairest and most satisfactory mode of taxation open to civilised men.

The next item was the working of the WARDS INSTITUTION to which my friend Rajah Sashisheklareswar Roy has referred. Having spent a long time on the management of the WARDS INSTITUTION I can say nothing new now. Lastly my friend to my left has referred to Court fees. Well, never in my life did I get a fee from any body, whether in Court or out of Court, and I shall leave to men who are more interested in Court fees to deal with the matter. Your Committee, I dare say, will be the best arbitrators in the matter.

Before closing the business of this evening I am required by the rules of your Committee to give notice of a motion for amending, at the next meeting of the Association, rules 12,55 & 56 of our Code.

With a voto of thanks to the chair the meeting separated.

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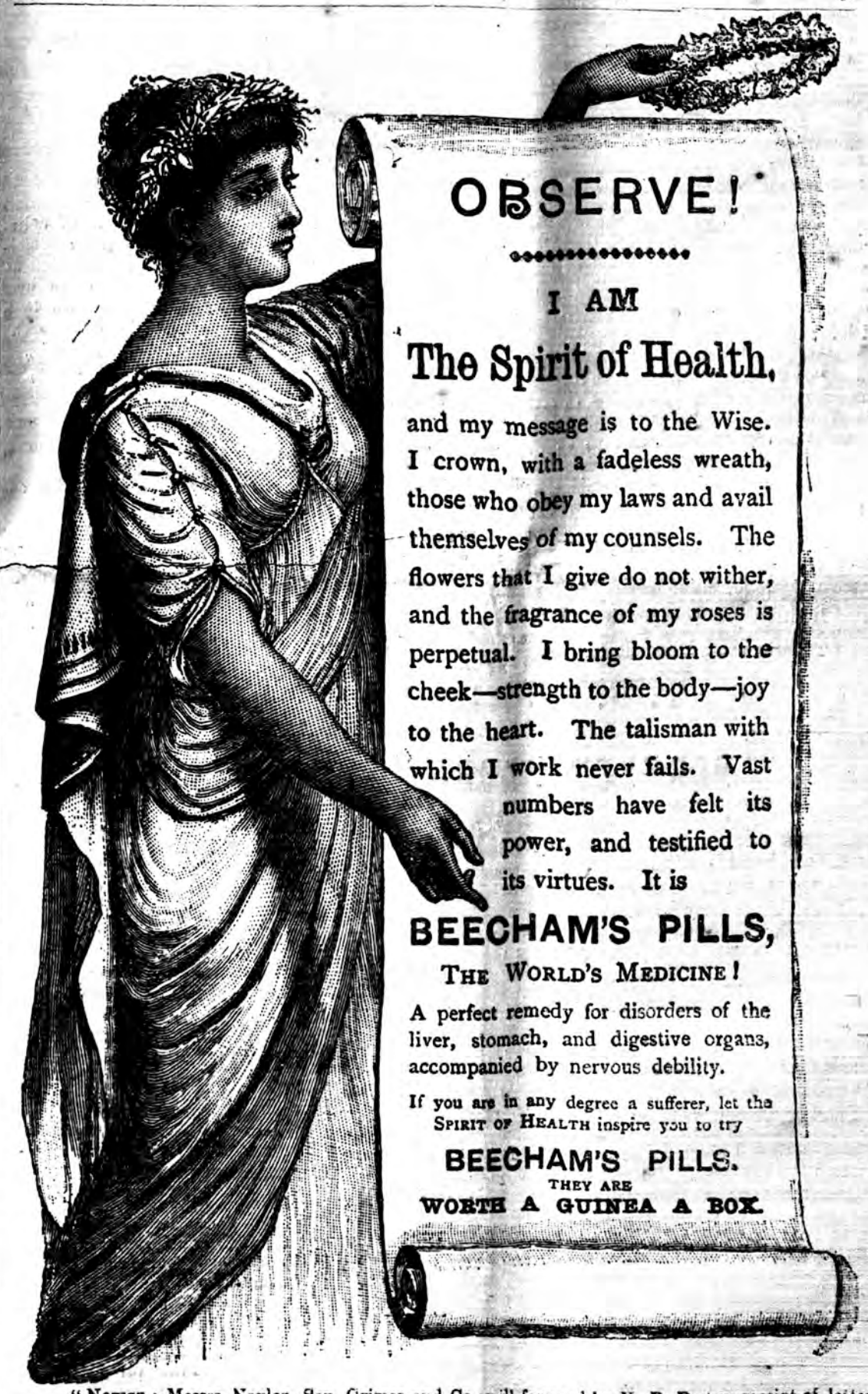

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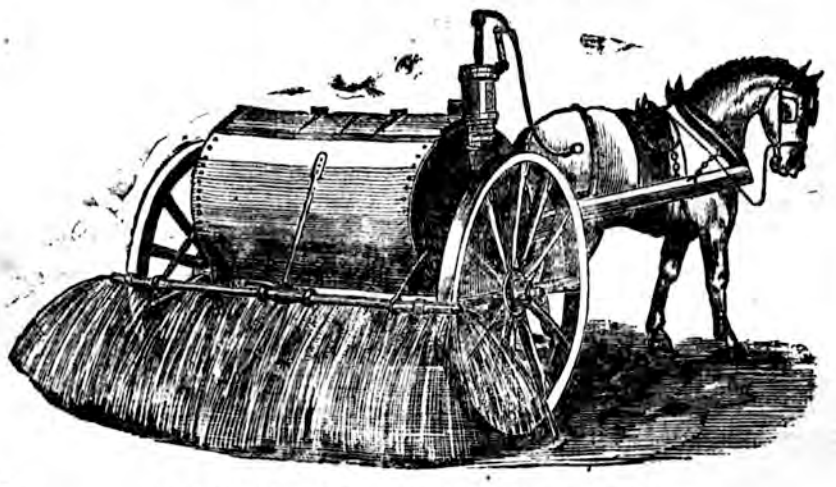

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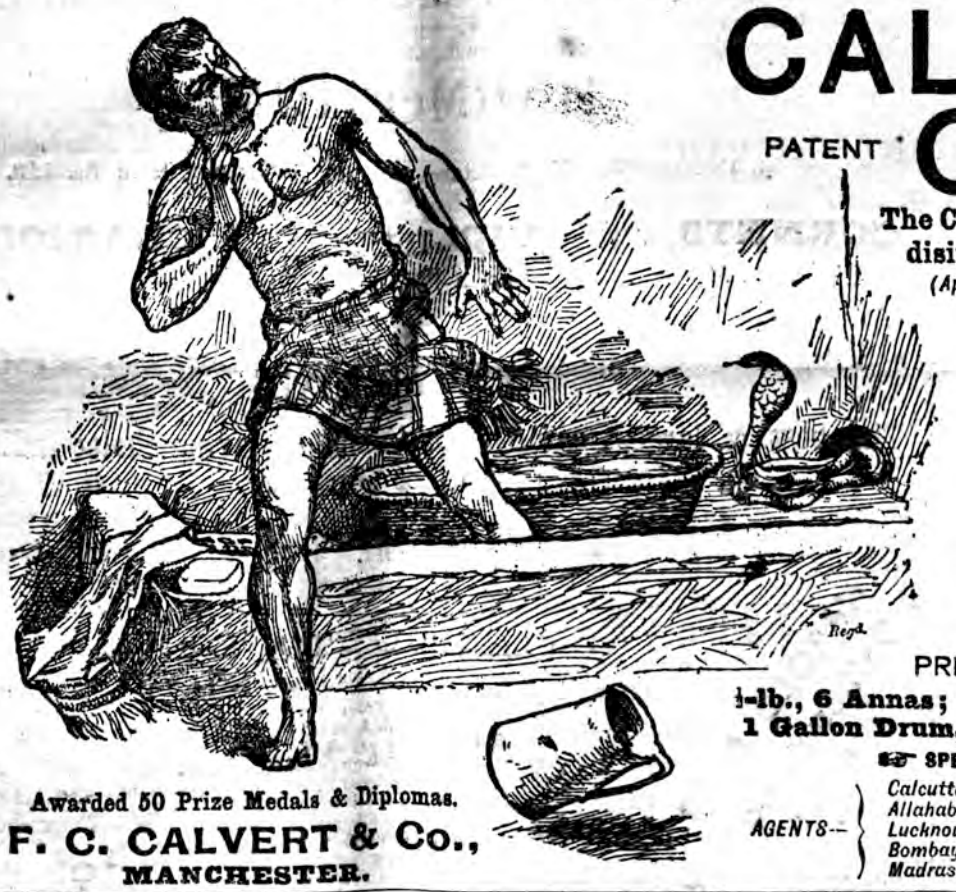

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ডায়মন কাটা বাজু ১॥ তোলা

দুর্গাপূজা কান।

খুব সস্তা! খুব সস্তা!! খুব সস্তা!!!

এত দিনে ৬।৭ তোলা ওজনে যে স্বর্ণ কান প্রস্তুত তাহা হইতে অনেক সুশ্রী ও পরিষ্কার গঠন কান ন্যূনাধিক ৪ তোলা ওজনে তৈয়ারি আছে। বহু চিন্তার পর, দুর্গাপ্রতিমারচালির অনুকরণে, শ্রীকৃষ্ণবাবু এই নমুনা বাহির করিয়াছেন। কান আমস্তক গণ্ডদেশ শোভা করিবে। পছন্দ না হইলে টাকা ফেরত দিব। ডাকখরচ কোম্পানি লোকসান দিবেন।

ডায়মন কাটা গঙ্গা-যমুনা মল।

মূল্য প্রতি জোড়া ৩০—৬০ টাকা।

ইহা এত সুন্দর যে যেখানে রাখা যায় সেই স্থানই যেন উজ্জল হয়।

প্যানাপাত চুড়ী।

এ দেশে যত প্রকার চুড়ীর চলন সর্ব্বাপেক্ষা উৎকৃষ্ট নমুনা। ওসার এক ক্রল, মূল্য

তারে ১৫০ ১৭৫ টাকা

পাতে ৬০ ৮০ „

তারের তিন থাক বাজু ও অশ্বত্থ পত্র চিক।

মূল্য প্রত্যেক ১৫০—২০০

স্বর্ণকারের শিল্পনৈপুণ্যের শীর্ষস্থল। পরীক্ষাস্থলে কেহ লইয়া যদি না পছন্দ করেন, ডাকখরচ কোম্পানী লোকসান দিবেন।

নিম্নলিখিত ব্যক্তিগণ ও শত শত লোক অনেকগুলি অলঙ্কার লইয়া বিশেষ সন্তোষসূচক পত্র লিখিয়াছেন—

বাবু বলদেব পালিত, বাঁকিপুর। শরৎ চন্দ্র মুখোপাধ্যায় হেডমাষ্টার, ক্যানিংকলেজ, লক্ষ্ণৌ, চন্দ্র নারায়ণ গুপ্ত ডিঃ মাজিষ্ট্রেট, দুমকা, চারুচন্দ্র চট্টোপাধ্যায় ডিঃ ইনস্পেক্টর, বীরভূম, ললিতমোহন বাগচী, গারোহিল, শ্যামাপদ ঘোষ L. M. S. মধুপুর, খগেন্দ্র নারায়ণ চৌধুরী লক্ষীপুর, ধুবড়ী, গিরীশচন্দ্র ঘোষ ডিঃ রেজিষ্ট্রার লক্ষ্ণৌ, গোপালচন্দ্র ঘোষ, চাঁইবাসা, যোগেন্দ্রনাথ গাঙ্গুলী গোলাঘাট, নীলরত্ন মুখোপাধ্যায় উকীল, রাচী, গোবিন্দমোহন রায়, কাকীনিয়া রাজবাটী বিপিন বিহারী গুপ্ত এম, এ, প্রফেসর প্রেসিডেন্সী কলেজ, রামবন্ধু চট্টোপাধ্যায় লছমনপুর, রাজেন্দ্র নারায়ণ রায় ডিঃ মাজিষ্ট্রেট জলপাইগুড়ী, গঙ্গানারায়ণ রায় ডিঃ কলেক্টর সওকান, শ্রীনাথ চট্টোপাধ্যায় ডিঃ কলেক্টর দারভাঙ্গা, R. D. D. Bhattacharji M. D.

All correspondences &c. should be addressed to the Secretary to the Company at Rampore, Boalia and not to any branch establishment elsewhere. 20

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